



REQUEST FOR BIODIVERSITY ENABLING ACTIVITY

PROPOSAL FOR FUNDING UNDER THE GEF TRUST FUND

PART I: PROJECT IDENTIFIERS

EA Title:	Updating the national biodiversity strategy and developing the action plan to support the implementation of the CBD 2011-2020 Strategic Plan in Paraguay		
Country(ies):	Paraguay	GEF Project ID:	TBD
GEF Agency(ies):	UNDP	GEF Agency Project ID:	4888
Other Executing Partner(s):	General Directorship for biodiversity protection and conservation (“DGPCB”), Secretariat of the Environment (SEAM)	Submission Date:	June 14, 2013
GEF Focal Area (s):	Biodiversity	Project Duration (Months)	24
Check if applicable:	NCSA <input type="checkbox"/> NAPA <input type="checkbox"/>	Agency Fee (\$):	20,976

A. EA FRAMEWORK

EA Objective: To integrate Paraguay’s obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) into its national development and sectorial 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 ¹	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Cof (\$)
1) Stocktaking and national target setting	TA	<p>By late -2013 the National Project Advisory Committee and a multi-sectorial/multi-stakeholder working group and sub-groups are consolidated</p> <p>By end 2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a common view among stakeholders on main threats and challenges to biodiversity, and a better knowledge on existing biodiversity initiatives is in place - stakeholders better informed on the economic and non economic values of biodiversity and its relation with development - Paraguay has made progress in the establishment of national targets in light of the Aichi Targets 	<p>1.1. An appropriate institutional framework, including procedures and mechanisms (including a National Project Advisory Committee and National Working Group) is in place that ensures participatory stocktaking and goal setting; the sustainability of this initiative and the commitment of the different stakeholders</p> <p>1.2. Review and stocktaking of products and results from previous biodiversity initiatives at the national level are carried out in a participative manner.</p> <p>1.3. In response to the global Aichi Targets, progress is made in the establishment of national biodiversity targets in a manner that is attuned to Paraguay’s reality, and baseline values are estimated/calculated</p>	43,560	90,700
2) NBSAP update	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By end of 2014, Paraguay’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 CDB. 	<p>2.1. The National Biodiversity Strategy for Paraguay, 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, including: (i) mainstreaming; (ii) the valuing of ecosystem goods and services; and (iii) the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-</p>	89,720	114,450

EA Component	Grant Type	Expected Outcomes ¹	Expected Outputs	Grant Amount (\$)	Confirmed Cof (\$)
			<p>based adaptation and resilience; iv) strengthening of the protected area system.</p> <p>2.2. The updated and fully endorsed NBSAPs for Paraguay is submitted to the CBD.</p> <p>2.3. Priorities and roadmaps have been developed for strategic areas, i.e. invasive species, national protected area system, policies, financial mechanisms, climate change resilience, etc..</p>		
3) National frameworks for CDB reporting and information exchange mechanisms	TA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - By early 2014 there is plan for implementing the NBSAP - By early 2014, Paraguay completes the updating and improvement of national clearinghouse mechanism - By the end of 2013, immediate CBD reporting obligations are met by Paraguay in a timely manner 	<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 costed and prioritized implementation 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 networks on biodiversity at national and international level.</p> <p>3.3. Immediate CBD reporting obligations are met by Paraguay in a timely manner, in particular the Fifth National Report to the CBD</p>	68,600	96,850
Subtotal				201,880	302,000
EA Management Cost²				18,920	48,000
Total EA Cost				220,800	350,000

^a List the \$ by EA components.

¹The deadline for expected outcomes has been developed considering that the project will begin in August 2012 and last until August 2014. The Chronogram of activities (Annex B) has been divided in quarters, each quarter having a duration of 3 months

²This 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.

B. CO-FINANCING FOR THE EA BY SOURCE AND BY NAME

Sources of Co-financing	Name of Co-financier	Type of Co-financing	Amount (\$)
National Government	General Directorship for biodiversity protection and conservation (“DGPCB”) Secretariat of the Environment (SEAM)	In-kind	48,000
National Government	General Directorship for biodiversity protection and conservation (“DGPCB”) Secretariat of the Environment (SEAM)	Grant	302,000
Total Co-financing			350,000

C. GRANT RESOURCES REQUESTED BY AGENCY, FOCAL AREA AND COUNTRY

GEF Agency	Type of Trust Fund	Focal Area	Country Name	EA Amount (a)	Agency Fee (b)	Total (c)=(a)+(b)
UNDP	GEF TF	Biodiversity (STAR)	Paraguay	0	0	0
UNDP	GEF TF	Biodiversity Focal Area Set-Aside	Paraguay	220,800	20,976	241,776
Total Grant Resources				220,800	20,976	241,776

D. EA MANAGEMENT COST

Cost Items	Total Estimated Person Weeks	Grant Amount (\$)	Co-financing (\$)	EA Total (\$)
Local consultants*	13.2	7,920	0	7,920
International consultants*		0	0	0
Office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications*, office cost (rental), administrative government staff		4,000	48,000	52,000
Travel*				
Others**	Audit	2,000		2,000
	Miscellaneous	1,000		1,000
	UNDP cost recovery chrgs-Bills	4,000		4,000
Total		18,920	48,000	66,920

* Details to be provided in Annex A. ** Other items to be clearly specified.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION FOR TABLE D, IF APPLICABLE:

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

Most of expenses for the office facilities, equipment, vehicles and communications (US\$302,000) will be borne by the General Directorship for Biodiversity Protection and Conservation (DGPCB) of the SEAM. Furthermore, the Project Director and the Project Assistant will also be a contribution from this Secretariat, as well as 6 public servants specialized in different areas. The remaining resources (US\$48,000) will be an in kind contribution for the office rental.

The bulk of the GEF’s portion of project management costs will go to engage the managerial services of the Project Specialist on Strategic Planning for approx 13.2 weeks (\$7,920) (refer to Annex A). This is equivalent to 15% of the person’s time. A number of expenses related to information technology equipment (laptop computer, printer and photocopier – \$ 2,000) and office supplies (e.g. stationary, printer cartridges, and fuel, among others – \$2,000) are also included. A further \$2,000 is budgeted for the Financial Audit, \$1,000 for miscellaneous expenses, and US\$ 4,000 for the estimated UNDP Direct Project Service/Cost recovery charges to UNDP for executing services. In accordance with GEF Council requirements, the costs of these services will be part of the executing entity’s Project Management Cost allocation identified in the project budget. DPS costs would be charged at the end of each year based on the UNDP Universal Price List (UPL) or the actual corresponding service cost. The amounts here are estimations based on the services indicated, however as part of annual project operational planning the DPS to be requested during the calendar year would be defined and the amount included in the yearly project management budgets and would be charged based on actual services provided at the end of that year.

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):

Bio-geographical context

The Republic of Paraguay is a landlocked country located in central South America, bordering Argentina to the south and west, and Brazil and Bolivia to the east and north. With an area of 406 752 km², Paraguay is the fifth smallest country in South America, and according to the National Census (2002) the country is inhabited by 5,206,101 people (51% men and 49% women) with a density of 10.2 people per km², one of the lowest in the subcontinent.

The Paraguay River divides the country in two different natural regions: the Eastern and Western, or Chaco, of Paraguay. The first, where the capital is based, represents 39% of the national territory, and contains the 97% of the population. In contrast, the Chaco occupies 61% the total area and only features 3% of the population.

The country is located entirely in the basin of the Rio de la Plata, and is characterized by a network of tributaries, streams and rivers. Paraguay has two main waterways, the Paraguay and Parana Rivers, with an area of 3.1 million km². This system is the fourth largest in the world, and has tremendous social and economic importance.

The four major ecoregions in Paraguay (Dinerstein et al. 1995) include:

a. The Atlantic Forest of Alto Parana

This ecoregion is described as a subtropical forest, known also as Selva Paranaense, which originally covered eastern Paraguay, northeastern Argentina and South Brazil. This forest ecoregion has been identified as one of the most threatened ecosystems in the world due to its high biodiversity and endemism, and only about 7% of its original area remains unaltered. (Biodiversity Support Program, 1995).

b. The Chaco

The Chaco occupies a large area and relatively flat alluvial soil of Paraguay, Argentina and Bolivia. This ecoregion is divided into two sub-ecoregions: wet Chaco and dry Chaco. The dry Chaco is characterized by a subtropical semi-deciduous forest on dry xerophytic (Guyra Paraguay, 2001). The International Institute for Environment and Development (1985) describes as a complex wet Chaco savannah subject to periodic flooding wooded with palms karanda'y formations (Copernicia sp.).

c. The Pantanal

This ecoregion constitutes the world's largest wetland. Although most of the ecoregion is located in Brazil, a small but important portion is found in Paraguay. This ecosystem is of great importance for species migration and fish diversity.

d. The Cerrado

The second most extensive ecoregion in South America, the Cerrado is a comparatively small and discontinuous mosaic of gently rolling topography with sandy soils.

It is difficult to pinpoint the exact number of endemic plant species in Paraguay because flora studies are in progress. Preliminarily, it can be said that almost all of the species are endemic to the River Plate Basin and many of them are endemic to Paraguay. For example, of the 156 species of common trees, 107 (69%) are regional endemics shared with neighboring countries (Acevedo, 1998). The faunal diversity reflects the variety of ecosystems in the country. There are an estimated 100,000 species of invertebrates and 1233 to 1336 vertebrates (29 families and 87 genera). In Paraguay, 32 species of mammals are known to be used for subsistence, commerce, utilities, ornamental and medicinal ceremonies.

There are a number of threatened floral species in Paraguay, including 15 endangered, 125 vulnerable, 115 rare, and 24 threatened.

Socio-economic context

With an annual growth rate of 2.4%, and with 45.8% of its population scattered in rural areas, the country has the highest rural population in South America. Paraguay is a bilingual and multicultural country, where almost 95% of the population is mestizo, and 5% is composed of natives and immigrants from various origins. The country has two official languages: Spanish and Guarani, which is spoken and understood by approximately 85% of the population of Paraguay. Compared to other Latin American countries, the illiteracy rate of 11.3% is among the highest. Since independence in 1811, Paraguay experienced three long dictatorships and devastating wars.

The Paraguayan economy is highly dependent on agriculture, which accounts for 26% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Agriculture contributes 15%, livestock 8%, and forestry 2.5%. These sectors exert great influence on other areas of the economy. The agricultural sector generates about 90% of exports and employs 43% of the country's workforce. Financial services, the State and construction contribute 43%, while basic services like electricity, drinking water, transport and communications contribute 10% of the GDP (MAG / WB / UNDP, 1997). The World Bank suggests that the volume of the informal sector could exceed the total GDP.

Paraguay is a country with a very high degree of poverty, which is further aggravated by high inequality in the distribution of income and land tenure. In fact, the richest 10% of the population receives 40% of total income, and the poorest 40% only 10% of total revenues. In addition, 10% of the rural population has 66% of the land, while 30% are landless, and another 30% have only 7% of the total land.

There are 19 indigenous groups in Paraguay, with five language families. The Indian Census of 2002 recorded at 85,674 indigenous people, representing 1.65% of total population of the country. The Indians of Paraguay are characterized by the multiplicity of cultures, social organization, adaptive strategies and social conditions of existence. A major problem faced by indigenous people is discrimination of the surrounding society.

Threats to biodiversity

Invasive alien species: One of the main threats to biodiversity in Paraguay is alien invasive species. SEAM has documented a list containing 32 orders, 67 families and 253 species of plants, mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles, fish and insects which are not native. Many of these are causing havoc on vulnerable ecological systems.

Change in land use: Changes in land use, especially in the eastern region, have been very rapid, especially in the last three decades of the twentieth century. The economic boom that brought about the construction of the Itaipu dam (IB) on the Parana River on the border with Brazil, made possible the substantial expansion of a new road network, the advance of the agricultural frontier and the establishment and rapid growth of urban centers, especially in the East. In 1997, it was reported that only 7% of native forests in this region remained. The situation is different in the western region, where climatic constraints prevent human settlements. However, recent mega infrastructure projects are proposed for the Chaco include large tracts of land in the Upper Paraguay. The Chaco still possesses more than 2/3 of its territory in natural land cover.

Deforestation: Deforestation has historically been an important threat to biodiversity. Deforestation rates peaked between 1986 and 1991 with annual rates of 6.5%.

Illegal hunting: Hunting and illegal capture of wildlife species are a serious problem in the country. The magnitude of this problem has not been fully quantified, but the seizure of illegal shipments of both skins and live animals is clear evidence that despite the efforts of authorities to apply the sanctions provided for in laws relating to wildlife, the problem persists. The species most affected by the illegal skins are alligators (Caiman spp.) and the land iguana (Tupinambis spp.). The live animal trade is focused on several species of parrots, macaws and parrots (Family Psittacidae), some of which are in serious danger of extinction in the country and throughout its range of regional distribution.

Development of infrastructure: The construction and expansion of the national road network and the proposed implementation of megaprojects continue to contribute substantially to the deterioration of natural resources, either by their direct or indirect environmental impacts.

Dams: Despite its small size, Paraguay has four hydroelectric dams, one of which is the largest in the world. The construction of large dams causes an array of threats to biodiversity, including the flooding of hundreds of thousands of hectares, disruption of hydrological flow regimes and significant barriers to migratory fish species.

Institutional framework

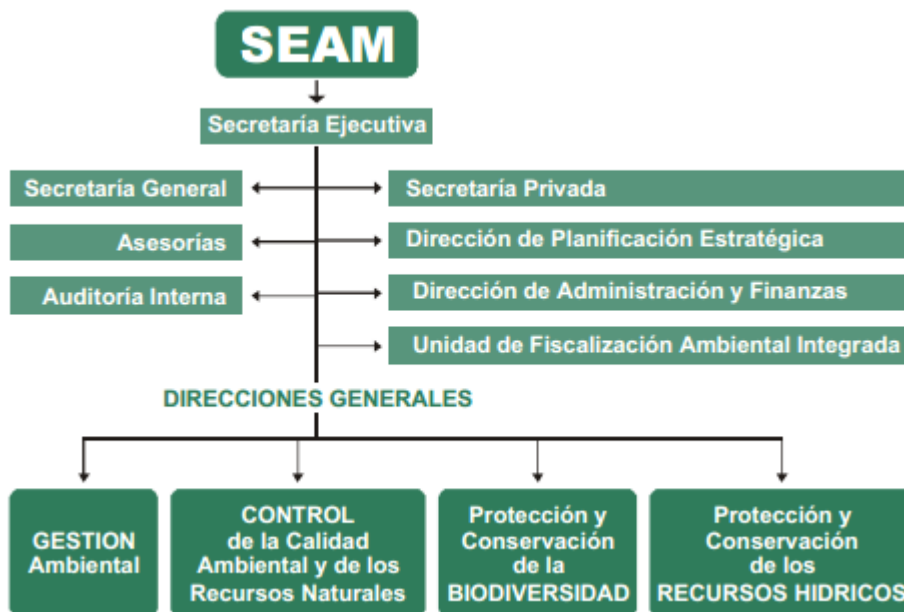
SEAM consists of four departments:

Department of Environmental Management: This department, which is part of the Office of Management and Environmental Information, formulates, coordinates and oversees policies, programs and projects including intergovernmental programs environmental education and awareness campaigns, international relations issues, and the National Environmental Information System.

Department of Environmental Quality Control and Natural Resources: This agency, which was formed by the Department of Environmental Quality Control and the Directorate of Environmental Impact Assessment, formulates, coordinates, monitors, evaluates and implements, in a partnership with regional governments and municipalities, a variety of programs, projects, and activities, including the evaluation of impact studies and environmental quality management.

General Directorate of Protection and Conservation of Biodiversity: This agency covers the Department of Wildlife Management, the Directorate for Biological Research / National Museum of Natural History of Paraguay, the Department of Fisheries and Aquaculture and the Department of Protected Areas. It is responsible for creating, administering, managing, and monitoring protected areas, and for establishing strategies for biodiversity conservation, including hunting, breeding, traffic and commercialization of wildlife. It is also responsible for implementing the National Wilderness Protection Act, including in government and private sectors.

General Directorate of Protection and Conservation of Water Resources: This agency, which is composed of the Management Division of Water Resources and Watershed Management, is responsible for developing and monitoring watershed health, proposing and promoting regulatory regimes. The agency is also responsible for developing institutional mechanisms and actions aimed at sustainable use of water resources through an integrated approach to watershed management, for promoting inter-sectoral and jurisdictional cooperation at the watershed level in order to implement the national water policy, and for proposing and promoting standards, benchmarks and indicators related to the quality and availability of water resources.



Protected areas in Paraguay and implementation of the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas

Paraguay has a robust network of protected areas, with 31 public protected areas, covering 2.4 million hectares, 19 private reserves totaling 283,500 hectares, 7 biological refuges totaling 46,600 hectares, and 3 biosphere reserves totaling 3.4 million acres. Altogether, Paraguay has protected 15.1% of its terrestrial area. A full and updated list of Paraguay's protected areas is available at: http://www.seam.gov.py/images/stories/seam/sinasip/lista_areas_protegidas_2010.pdf.

PA category/type	Quantity	Surface area, hectares	Corresponding IUCN category	Management authority
Parque Nacional	17	2,079,181	II National Park	SEAM
Monumento Natural	5	130,340	III Natural Monument	SEAM
Refugio de Vida Silvestre	1	30,000	IV Habitat/species Management Area	SEAM
Paisajes Protegidos	1	44	V Protected Landscape/Seascape	SEAM
Reserva de Recursos Manejados	1	24,000	VI Managed Resources Area	SEAM
Reserva Ecológica	3	3,085	According to each management plan	SEAM
Reserva Natural Privada	13	236,246	According to each management plan	SEAM
Reserva de Biosfera	3	3,517,029	UNESCO's management category	SEAM
Reserva Biológica	2	31,275	According to each management plan	ITAIPU
Refugio Biológico	4	14,271	According to each management plan	ITAIPU & YACYRETA
	50	6,066,207 (14,9% of Paraguay)		

Key barriers to the effective implementation of the CBD Strategic Plan

Based on the thematic and interdisciplinary analyzes performed during the National Capacity Self-Assessment¹ the following are critical capacities that must be improved:

- a) The ability to incorporate CBD obligations into national legislation in policies and institutions. In particular this means better staff training in legal and technical issues associated with the Convention.
- b) Improved economic instruments and sustainable financial mechanisms, including a comprehensive training on natural resource utilization and management as well as internal development of valuation of these resources, which may lead to an improved funding base.
- c) Improved planning and management, especially of the monitoring and evaluation process. The country requires more professionals who have access to continuous training processes, and who know how to use and manage information, to carry out clear and transparent accountability of budgets and expenditures, and who can strengthen national capacity in terms of environmental governance.
- d) The improved collection, management and exchange of information. There is a basic need to improve existing structures of exchange and information management, among which is providing continuity to the processes started and improving the necessary information management skills of national experts. In particular there is a need to make access to information a simple and agile procedure.
- e) Use of scientific information and policy, planning and management: It is necessary to consolidate and strengthen the existing infrastructure, and to generate, manage and update databases more reliably.
- f) Awareness / public awareness and environmental education: There is a need to integrate environmental issues into the educational system, promoting education and environmental awareness at all levels and adapting it to each audience, both in Spanish and in Guaraní.
- g) Development and Technology Transfer: It is necessary to improve access to new technologies; hold professional trainings to strengthen inter-agency cooperation with universities and national schools; and to fully utilize the existing institutions in the country.

¹ See

<http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/Environment%20and%20Energy/Integrating%20Environment%20into%20Development/nca/final%20report%20and%20action%20plan/spanish/nca-paraguay-fr-ap-SP.pdf>

- h) Coordination across sectors: For this it is necessary to create rapid and efficient mechanisms for the transmission of information between different sectors, and to avoid duplication of work and encouraging synergies. It is also necessary to foster inter and intra-institutional agreements for cooperation between government and universities, NGOs and other sectors of civil society and encourage networking in order to raise awareness of the three conventions and related processes.

1) National Reporting to CBD			
Reports	Date of Submission to CBD Secretariat	Current Status*	Comments
National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan	Nov 2003	Submitted	Outdated
Revision of NBSAP	Not submitted	Not started	Funding being applied through this proposal
1 st National Report	Submitted; June, 2003	Not Submitted	Did not receive GEF funding for this activity
2 nd National Report		Submitted	Outdated
3 rd National Report	Not submitted	Not submitted	Did not receive GEF funding for this activity
4 th National Report	Not submitted	Not submitted	Did not receive GEF funding for this activity
2) Capacity Needs Assessments carried out			
Start Date: January 2010		End Date: January 2011	
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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cross-cutting capacity needs assessments for the implementation of the Rio Conventions (see e.g., http://www.undp.org/content/dam/undp/library/Environment%20and%20Energy/Integrating%20Environment%20into%20Development/ncsa/final%20report%20and%20action%20plan/spanish/ncsa-paraguay-fr-ap-SP.pdf) 			2011
•			
3) Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) established?			YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
CHM link(s): http://www.seam.gov.py/			Paraguay's CHM had been established in 2004, although its updating was interrupted in 2008 for different reasons. With this project, this site's periodical updating would be reinstated.
Is the CHM website maintained up to date?			No
How many people currently operate and maintain the national CHM?			0
How many people visited the national CHM website in the past 12 months?			Unknown
Note: This proposal includes the establishment of an effective, comprehensive and up-to-date CHM that can be used to exchange information nationally, regionally and internationally.			

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 realize 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 Paraguay was completed in 2003. This version of the NBSAP does not include the below listed elements of the CBD Strategic Plan's Aichi Targets now seen as needs, gaps or advances that were not addressed at that time. This second generation strategy aims to comply with these international requirements, and further close gaps in the implementation of the national and international agreements taking into account the achievements of the 2003 NBS and addressing unsolved, new and emerging challenges. Key issues for implementing the Strategic Plan that were not addressed in Paraguay's 2003 NBSAP include:

- A plan for integrating the value of biodiversity into national and local development strategies and planning processes incorporated into national accounting, as appropriate, and reporting systems (*Target 2*)
- A plan for creating incentives and removing harmful subsidies (*Target 3*).
- A plan for fully implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas, including increased protection and landscape/seascape connectivity (*Target 11*). Although Paraguay has a modestly robust protected area network, it has not been designed with climate resilience, ecosystem services of sustainable livelihoods in mind.
- 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*) – the issue of ecosystem-based livelihoods is critical in Paraguay, yet this issue is not adequately addressed in the 2003 NBSAP.
- 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: 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.

Alignment with Focal Area Outcome(s):

BD5 Objective: Integrate CBD Obligations into National Planning Processes through Enabling Activities (herein serving as the 'Project Development Goal'):

Focal Area Outcome 5.1: Development and sectoral planning frameworks at country level integrate measurable biodiversity conservation and sustainable use targets.

The Project *Objective* is:

To integrate Paraguay's obligations under the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) into its national development and sectorial 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):

- Component/Outcome 1 – A participative stocktaking exercise on biodiversity planning takes place and progresses are made in the establishment of national biodiversity targets in response to the global Aichi Targets and national priorities
- Component/Outcome 2 – The NBSAP is revised and updated and fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan and national priorities, such as mainstreaming and anchoring the implementation of the plan into national development frameworks, valuing ecosystem services and promoting ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience
- Component/Outcome 3 – National frameworks for resources 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.

This project will build national capacity in Paraguay in the following manner:

Individual	Much of the work under this project will be carried out through working groups. This is an ideal forum for imparting knowledge among different individuals involved in biodiversity planning and in environmental matters in Paraguay in general. For many of the civil servants and NGO staff in Paraguay, 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 part and parcel of this proposal.
Organizational	<p>UNDP's approach to Biodiversity Enabling activities in GEF5 goes beyond the mere production of national reports and strategies to the CBD and the development of a website for the CHM. Rather, it is concerned about the developing a permanent framework for reporting to the CBD and for maintaining the CHM interesting and up to date. This implies institutionalizing the capacity for eventually achieving this with as little external assistance as possible. Given the ambitious targets of the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020), it is recognized that actions to engage external assistance and retain national are in the meanwhile needed. This will be availed through the project. In particular, the following activities are specially targeted at building organizational capacity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Taking stock of the NBSAP and identifying barriers to its implementation ▪ Setting targets and priorities ▪ Developing implementation plans for the revised NBSAP ▪ Assessing and strengthening capacity needs ▪ Developing clearinghouse mechanisms ▪ Developing a permanent framework for reporting to the CBD
Systemic	<p>The approach that UNDP has developed for Biodiversity Enabling Activities in GEF5 is transformational with respect to systemic capacity elements (i.e. policy, economic, regulatory, and accountability frameworks within which organizations and individuals operate). The aim is to ensure that the objectives, targets and guidance from the CBD Strategic Plan (2011-2020) become fully anchored into national development frameworks. This will be achieved by the development of the following new aspects of the CBD strategic plan: (i) the valuing of ecosystem goods and services; (ii) mainstreaming; and (iii) the incorporation of challenges and opportunities linked to ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience. The knowledge developed through these activities will become part of Paraguay's new NBSAP and will have a greater chance of influencing and even becoming policy. In particular, the following activities are specially targeted at building systemic capacity:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 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 Programme of Work on Protected Areas implementation plan ▪ Securing sustainable finance for NBSAP implementation

C. DESCRIBE THE ENABLING ACTIVITY AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION

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.

Component	Outline of modules for NBSAP Revision and Related Activities	Indicative percentage of total GEF funding in the proposal
1	Preparing for the NBSAP revision; Stocktaking exercise and biodiversity assessment; Setting national targets, principles & main priorities of the strategy	19.7 %
2	NBSAP update	40.6 %
3	Development of an implementation plan Institutionalizing, monitoring and reporting	31%
4	Project Management	9.4 %
Total		100%

Component 1. Preparing for the NBSAP revision

Key Outputs expected under this component includes the following:

- 1.1 An appropriate institutional framework, including procedures and mechanisms (including a National Project Advisory Committee and National Working Group) is in place that ensure the sustainability of this initiative and the commitment of the different stakeholders
- 1.2 Review and stocktaking of products and results from previous biodiversity initiatives at the national level are carried out in a participative manner.
- 1.3 In response to the global Aichi Targets, progresses are made in the establishment of national biodiversity targets in a manner that is attuned to Paraguay's reality, and baseline values are estimated/calculated

Key Outcomes:

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

Key Products or publications resulting from activities:

- Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Paraguay: routes of action to anchor NBSAP into national development frameworks in five institutions
- Biodiversity Targets for Paraguay: As part of national efforts to implement the CBD's Strategic Plan for 2011-2020

Key Activities (I-II):

I. Preparing for the NBSAP implementation

- Taking stock of the NBSAP and identifying barriers to its implementation: This activity will focus on rapidly but accurately identifying the root causes of biodiversity loss, and taking stock of existing plans, policies and practices in key public institutions and the decentralization system of municipalities and development councils through SEAM. 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, including conceptual ecological models, the emphasis of this activity will be on prioritizing and 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 public and private sectors, administrative leaders, and traditionally under-represented groups involved directly or indirectly in biodiversity knowledge, conservation and sustainable management. The aim is to develop and sustain a participatory process in order to increase the likelihood of successful implementation of the NBSAP. This activity is especially important relative to the goals of mainstreaming biodiversity into national development plans. It is equally important in terms of incorporating the valuation of environmental goods and services nationwide into institutional plans, including those services provided by Paraguay's System of Protected Areas. Stakeholder consultation and participation is also important for the goals of promoting resilient landscapes that include production sectors as part of the new NBSAP development process. Social mediation services specialised in stakeholder engagement at the local level will play a role in ensuring wide participation in meetings and consultations. The costs of such consultations will be kept to a minimum. The distribution of printed material will also be important for the wide engagement of national stakeholders.

II. Setting targets

- Feedback mechanisms for target monitoring: This activity focuses on monitoring specific, measurable, achievable and time-bound targets for the NBSAPs based on the global Aichi Targets, emphasizing targets on assessing and capturing the value of ecosystem goods and services, restoration of ecosystems, protected area coverage, overall biodiversity loss, and other aspects of the Strategic Plan. Previous stakeholder consultation and participation will be key in developing and incorporating mechanisms for target monitoring in each sector linked to biodiversity. This activity, which is linked to priority setting among different aspects within the NBSAP, will be completed before CoP-11.

Component 2. NBSAP update.

Key Outputs expected under this component includes the following:

- 2.1. The National Biodiversity Strategy for Paraguay, 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, including: (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; iv) strengthening of the protected area system.
- 2.2. The updated and fully endorsed NBSAPs for Paraguay is submitted to the CBD,
- 2.3. Action Plans and/or roadmaps in strategic areas, i.e. invasive species, national protected area system, policies, financial mechanism, climate change resilience, have been developed

Key Outcome:

- By 2014, Paraguay'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 Paraguay
- Sub-product 1: Protected area-based and ecosystem-based climate resilience plan
- Sub-product 2: Study on valuation and mainstreaming of biodiversity
- Sub-product 3: Plans to strengthen the protected area capacity and network
- Sub-product 4: Strategy for addressing invasive alien species.
- Sub-product 5: Strategy for addressing key economic incentives for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use

Key Activity (III)

III. Implementing the NBSAP

This step will seek to achieve the following: (i) Identify strategies to implement NBSAP at sub-national and local levels, including the National Development Council System; and (ii) Sectorial integration including mainstreaming into development, poverty reduction and climate change plans through sectorial consultations and jointly identify implementation mechanisms.

While the project will focus on updating all aspects of NBSAP, it will place particular emphasis on those aspects that are both highlighted in the 2011-2020 CBD Strategic Plan, and that are country priorities to guarantee biological diversity conservation and sustainable use. 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, Paraguay has yet to link the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services to its own national development goals, especially regarding poverty eradication and sustainable livelihoods. Based on the results developed through stocktaking activities, Paraguay will demonstrate the benefits and values of ecosystems and biodiversity at a national level through the development of at least two TEEB-like case studies of livelihoods to better link ecosystems and sustainable livelihoods that will contribute to national development plans.

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, as well as human 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, taking into consideration the results of the developed case studies. 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 Paraguay 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. Contract TEEB specialists and conform necessary field teams to gather required information for TEEB assessment for at least two case studies (for example forestry concessions in local communities and honey production)
 - b. 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, polination), and existing global and regional maps and overlays of key ecosystem services.
 - c. 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. Specific interest will be placed on identifying the use and non-use value, as well as resilience value and physical for each case study, making a point of recognizing the value of biodiversity and ecosystem services for both case studies.
 - d. Estimate and demonstrate the value of key ecosystem services (using methods appropriate to each case study), including the value of the ecosystem service in contributing to climate resilience, adaptation and mitigation; reducing poverty, and sustaining livelihoods. This process will include calculating the costs and benefits of conserving the ecosystem services provided.
 - e. This process will also help identify potential means of capturing the value of ecosystem services and biodiversity of both case studies, incorporating the values of ecosystems into decision making, through incentives and price signals for both case studies.
 - f. Design protocols to systematize and register biological diversity valuation experiences and criteria, articulating prioritized stakeholders to incorporate valuation mechanisms in their organizations.
- Strengthening protected areas: The protected area network, while moderately robust, was not designed to provide climate change resilience, adaptation and mitigation measures, to sustain critical ecosystem services, nor provide for sustainable livelihoods. As part of the NBSAP development process, SEAM will assess gaps in the protected area network, assess key capacities for managing protected areas, and develop strategies for filling these gaps.
 - 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.²
 - ✓ As part of this process, Paraguay will focus on key sectors involving biodiversity management at a national level, including those sectors prioritized through the stocktaking activities, through the development of prioritization criteria. These key sectors will include national planning and coordinating institutions. These actors are directly involved in: agriculture, forestry, livestock, fisheries, development planning and finance; water and economic development.
 - ✓ The Project will also focus on the following development areas / topics: land-use planning and management, including spatial and infrastructural development planning; rural development and livelihoods; local development and decentralization; rights of indigenous groups; development finance; poverty alleviation; food security and climate change mainstreaming.
 - ✓ Specific steps in this process will include:
 - a. Forming partnerships between relevant stakeholders interested in biodiversity conservation issues and in development issues, this process will have begun through stocktaking activity development
 - b. Producing a validated draft of the NBSAP and submit it to the press for the publication to be widely disseminated thanks to the key partnership with relevant stakeholders identified and prioritized.
 - c. Explicitly identifying key stakeholder's interests and desired outcomes. This will allow for the elaboration of a

² Petersen, C and B. Huntley. 2005. Mainstreaming Biodiversity in Productive Landscapes. Working Paper 20. Washington DC: GEF.

diffusion plan to widely disseminate the NBSAP among prioritized stakeholders.

- d. Identifying potential conflicts and trade-offs, and work towards mutually acceptable solutions, including strategies that serve mutually beneficial interests and achieve mutually beneficial outcomes.
 - e. Embedding and institutionalizing these strategies in the institutions, policies, agreements, programs and mechanisms of each sector, through the agreement on courses of action plans to mainstream NBSAP in key identified institutions.
- Incorporating climate change issues into NBSAPs: The previous NBSAP did not adequately address aspects of climate change. While there is data and fine-scale modelling available on possible climate change scenarios, the issue of climate change adaptation based on ecosystem services remained sub-explored. In order to shape the national strategy, some experiential knowledge, combined with technical analysis, is needed. The same may be said about ecosystem-based mitigation of climate change, which primarily builds on carbon sequestration and avoided emissions, and the role of forests. This activity will specifically involve the incorporation of restoration activities as one of the main targets for climate change adaptation based on ecosystems in relation to country specific environmental vulnerability, fragmentation and biodiversity loss.

Component 3. National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CDB reporting and information 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 Paraguay in a timely manner: (1) By the end of 2013, Paraguay has developed national targets to achieve the CBD Strategic Plan; and (2) The Fifth National Report to the CBD by 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 Paraguay, based on best international practice on the matter

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:

- a) 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. As with other activities under this project, this one will be highly participative to ensure the wide societal support to the implementation of the new NBSAP.

- b) Integrating the NBSAP implementation plan with the CBD Programme of Work on Protected Areas implementation plan: Paraguay has made progress in implementing the Programme of Work on Protected Areas. Several protected areas have concrete management plans, and much information has been produced on the National System of Protected Areas and its financial aspects. However, there are many areas that lag behind, including sustainable finance, transboundary areas and connectivity, effective management of existing areas, and the establishment of sufficient coverage and representativeness of protected areas. The updated NBSAP will include a specific plan for implementing the PoWPA, with specific milestones and targets, along with an assessment of how this implementation will help achieve the main objectives included in this proposal.
- c) 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. Paraguay is still in the early stages of exploring these mechanisms. Based on the identification of existing financial gaps for NBSAP implementation, this activity will therefore focus on the following:
- Develop mechanisms to guarantee governmental budget assigned to biological diversity activities, linking tax collection based on biodiversity valuation.
 - Promote the development and use of economic indicators linked to biological diversity management and its use to assign institutional budgets at a national level.
 - Develop a Resource Mobilization Plan for NBSAP implementation, based on innovative sources of conservation finance / biodiversity finance, which remain sub-explored in Paraguay.
 - Assessing the feasibility for these revenue sources.
- d) 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 Paraguay develops a road map for strengthening these specific capacities through the design and implementation of a Capacity Development Program based in updating, training and professional accreditation of personnel involved in biological diversity management; as well as building alliances with key national stakeholders to implement the plan (based on stocktaking stakeholders and developed activities). The first step to develop is a capacity needs assessment that will identify main gaps along with capacity-building strategies to fill those gaps. A National Capacity Development specialist for NBSAP implementation will be engaged to lead this activity.

IV. 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 Programs 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, Paraguay will ensure that future monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity and ecosystem services is comprehensive, and fully incorporates climate change issues. Indicators developed for the NBSAP will be evaluated to guarantee they respond to human wellbeing, climate change, poverty alleviation, food security and vulnerability reduction 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 and Paraguay is no exception. The key challenges relate to the upload of key information for supporting timely decision-making on biodiversity management, expanding webhosting services, using more modern software to use and publish certain services and applications within the site linking up to other services and databases. This aspect of the project will help Paraguay overcome those challenges so as to more 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. Proposed activities will include:

- Identifying programmatic areas that are priority for the country, based on the National Environmental Policy approved in 2004, allowing the redistribution and reorganization of the CHM website.
 - Developing a network of associates and biodiversity related institutions, organizations and national actors, creating linkages that facilitate scientific and technical cooperation. This activity aims to establish the National Biological Diversity Observatory with wide participation from national public and private sectors, including national, international and State funds that will allow the development of an interconnected system of information technologies.
 - Building and inventory of biological diversity projects and initiatives fed by key governmental and non-governmental organizations and universities.
 - Assessing sustainability and funding potential of the CHM national site.
- Developing a permanent framework for reporting to the CBD: Parties to the CBD committed to submitting a fifth national report by March 2014. In this project, Paraguay 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 Paraguay to better track changes over time. An expert working group of 4-6 people will be engaged in completing this activity, preferably before the deadline, given the short duration of the project. The report will build on the studies and the NBSAP produced with assistance from the project. Activities will include:
 - Agreement on the V National Report structure based on CBD guidelines
 - Identification of key components of biodiversity whose status must be updated, establishing trends
 - Identification of main threats to biodiversity (ecosystems, populations and genes)
 - Establishment of information to be included as part of strategies and action plans of the Report
 - Identify indicators to measure progress to meet the Aichi targets, in line with current NBSAP
 - Selection of key stakeholders, consultants and specific tasks to be developed to compile information to be submitted in the Report. 500 copies will be published of the V National Report, submitting it to the CBD in a timely manner.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS:

The project will be implemented over a period of two years using the UNDP modality of national execution (NIM)]. The General Directorship for Biodiversity Protection and Conservation (“*DGPCB*”) of the SEAM is the designated national 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 process will be organized at three levels: (i) *National Project Directorship*; (ii) *Project Operations Team*; (iii) *Project Advisory Group & Sectorial Advisory Groups*.

The overall responsibility for the project implementation by DBPC-SEAM implies the timely and verifiable attainment of project objectives and outcomes. DBPC-SEAM will provide support to, and inputs for, the implementation of all project activities. SEAM will appoint a high level official who will serve as the *National Project Director* (NPD) for the project implementation, who may be the Minister, the General Director of DGPCB or another duly appointed officer. The NPD will not be paid from the project funds, but will represent a Government cash contribution to the Project. The NPD will be technically supported by a *Project Operations Team* as well as UNDP’s technical backstopping provided by the UNDP/GEF Regional Technical Advisor responsible for the project and the UNDP Environment Programme Officer at the Country Office.

The *Project Operations Team* (POT) will be constituted by members of the DGPCB-SEAM, and will be strengthened by specialists in core areas, namely: specialist on strategic planning, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, strategic communication and information management. Furthermore an administrative assistant will be hired. The expert in strategic planning (ESP) is accountable to the General Director of the DGPCB for the quality, timeliness and effectiveness of the activities carried out, as well as for the use of funds. The POT will also be technically supported by contracted national consultants and service providers.

Recruitment of project staff and specialist services for the project will be coordinated by the ESP, in consultation with the UNDP and DGBPC-SEAM using standard UNDP recruitment procedures.

Working closely with DGBPC-SEAM, the UNDP Country Office (UNDP-CO) will be responsible for: (i) providing financial and audit services to the project; (ii) recruitment of project staff and contracting of consultants and service providers; (iii) overseeing financial expenditures against project budgets approved by PSC; (iv) 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 procedures. A UNDP staff member will be assigned with the responsibility for the day-to-day management and control over project finance.

A *Project Advisory Committee* (PAC) will be established. The PAC will be appointed regularly as a consultative body, to provide advice to the POT and PSC when requested. If needed, Sectoral Advisory Groups will be established to address particular topics. Other stakeholders will be invited to be part of the PAC and sub-groups.

As part of these institutional arrangements the following stakeholders, amongst others, will be considered:

- ANDE Administración Nacional de Electricidad (National Electrical Administration)
- APPA Asociación Paraguaya de Periodistas Ambientales (Association of Environmental Journalists)
- ARP Asociación Rural del Paraguay (Rural Association of Paraguay)
- CONADERNA Comisión Nacional de Defensa de los Recursos Naturales (National Commission of Nature Protection)
- CONAM Consejo Nacional del Ambiente (National Environmental Council)
- CRIA Centro Regional de Investigación Agrícola (Center for Regional Agricultural Research)
- DGEEC Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos (Department of general statistics and census)
- DIA Dirección de Investigación Agrícola (Department of Agricultural Research)
- DIB/MNHNP Dirección de Investigación Biológica/Museo Nacional de Historia Natural del Paraguay (Museum of Natural History of Paraguay)
- Environment and IP NGOs.
- IABIN Inter-American Biodiversity Information Network
- IBR Instituto de Bienestar Rural (Institute of Rural Wellbeing)
- INDI Instituto Paraguayo del Indígena (Paraguay Indigenous Institute)
- MAG Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería (Ministry of Food and Agriculture)
- MEC Ministerio de Educación y Cultura (Ministry of Education and Culture)
- MIC Ministerio de Industria y Comercio (Ministry of Industry and Commerce)
- MSPBS Ministerio de Salud Pública y Bienestar Social (Ministry of Public Health and Wellbeing)
- MOPC Ministerio de Obras Públicas y Comunicaciones (Ministry of Public Works and Communication)
- National and International NGOs
- Private Sector
- SAS Secretaría de Acción Social (Secretary of Social Action)
- SENATUR Secretaría Nacional del Turismo (Secretary of National Tourism)
- SFN Servicio Forestal Nacional (National Forest Service)
- UNA Universidad Nacional de Asunción

Several steps will be taken to ensure effective IP participation: SEAM will seek advice from the INDI but also from IP networks and NGO to ensure that the adequate mechanism is in place for indigenous people participation in the NBSAP design and implementation; as during the design of the 2004-2009 NBSAP, it is expected that IP will take part of working groups, IP representatives may be invited to be part of the PAC, while SEAM will build upon already existing IP working groups/strategic Alliance to ensure IP cosmovision is duly taken into account during thematic discussions.

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

Paraguay ratified the UN Convention of Biological Diversity in 1994. The country has made important efforts to fulfil its obligations under the CBD, as well as to implement the Convention at the national level, including several of its Programs of Work. The project will build upon previous biodiversity planning processes, which produced the 2003 NBSAP, national reports to the CBD and related conventions, plus capacity assessments relevant for biodiversity management in Paraguay.

Furthermore, the proposed Project will be in line with the National Environment Protection Act ("LGPA") (No 17.283, 2000), the Law for Spatial Planning and Sustainable Development (Law No 18.308, 2008), the National Protected Areas System (Law 17.234 and Decree 52/005), the Environmental Impact Assessment Law (16.466, Decree 349/005), among others. The Project will further build forth on -and contributes to- new legislation relevant to the CBD.

Collaboration and synergies with related initiatives

Paraguay is gradually building a GEF portfolio of biodiversity and related projects. The Enabling Activities Technical Coordinator, the host institution and the UNDP Country Office will ensure that this project can benefit from technical synergies with other related initiatives. These synergies will be created primarily with the following projects:

- ***Cross-Cutting Capacity Development Project (GEF project currently being designed)***: This UNDP-executed project will focus on strengthening national capacities for global environmental management and the Rio Conventions. The results of this project will be instrumental in building capacities regarding the Biodiversity Convention, serving as a strong foundation for ensuring the sustainability of the biodiversity strategy.
- ***Mainstreaming Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Land Management into Production Practices in all Bioregions and Biomes*** (GEF PIMS 4860) – this recently approved PIF, which aims to ensure that the biodiversity and ecosystem functions of the Atlantic Forest ecoregion is protected from existing and emerging threats from multi-sectoral production practices and is a model for replication across the country's bioregions and biomes, will provide a basis for key strategies within the Atlantic Forest ecoregion, and will provide an opportunity for synergies in developing protected area-based climate resilience and adaptation strategies.
- ***SFM Improving the Conservation of Biodiversity in Atlantic Forest of Eastern Paraguay*** (GEF PIMS 2690): This project, which aims to assist the government of Paraguay in its efforts to reduce the deforestation rate and associated biodiversity loss within the productive landscape of the Paraguayan Atlantic Forest through development of connectivity within a conservation corridor, improving the protected area system, and strengthening of the policy framework and enforcement mechanisms, will also provide the basis for developing a comprehensive protection strategy within the Atlantic Forest ecoregion and will provide the basis for achieving Target 5 (reducing the rate of loss of natural habitats, including forests).
- ***Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use in the Mbaracayu Natural Reserve*** (GEF PIMS 1489): This project, which aimed to conserve globally significant biodiversity in the highly threatened Interior Atlantic Forest of Paraguay by supporting the effective protection and consolidation of the Mbaracayú Natural Reserve and promoting conservation, sustainable use, and land-use planning in the Upper Jejuí River Watershed, will help provide lessons for improving the integration of conservation, sustainable use and land-use planning.
- Paraguay UN REDD Programme. The purpose of this programme implemented by the SEAM, the INFONA and the FAPI with the support from FAO, UNDP and UNEP in Paraguay is to prepare the country for REDD mechanisms, including the preparation of the National Forestry Inventory, a National Redd+ Plan, and an information network mechanism, with the participation of all stakeholders, including indigenous People.
- Programme on Forestry Preservation: this programme funded with Japan Official Development Assistance has the objective of promoting efforts to reduce impacts from climate change, with a special emphasis on adaptation and mitigation of climate change as well as access to clean energy, based on the strengthening of forest in protected areas.

COMPARATIVE ADVANTAGE OF UNDP IN PARAGUAY 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.

The Government of Paraguay has requested UNDP assistance in designing and implementing this project, due to UNDP's track record in Latin America. UNDP currently supports the development and implementation of GEF projects in numerous other countries throughout Latin America (e.g., Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, Ecuador). UNDP has an established national office in Asuncion, with well-developed working relationships with the key stakeholders of the project. Moreover, the project will benefit from the presence of a UNDP/GEF Regional Technical Advisor dedicated to biodiversity in Panama. UNDP also has extensive experience in integrated policy development, human resources development, institutional strengthening, and non-governmental and community participation.

UNDP has an established national office in Asuncion with well-developed working relationships with the key stakeholders of the

project. The Asuncion UNDP Country Office counts on two professional staff to cater for the Environment and Energy portfolio, plus operational, senior management and support staff.

Finally, it is important to highlight the experience of UNDP-Paraguay in the implementation of similar projects; in effect, in addition to other GEF projects, UNDP has supported SEAM in preparing the NBSAP in 2002, and NBSAP Phase 2 in 2005, the two National Reports for the CDB (2003 and 2006) and the National Capacity Self Assessment in 2007.

Fit with UNDP and UN programming in Paraguay

This project is aligned with the United Nations Development assistance Framework (UNDAF) for 2007/-2011 (extended to 2013). This project will contribute mainly to the environmental sustainability area of the UNDAF and will be part of the environment and vulnerability reduction component of the UNDP Country Program Document to be prepared in 2013. This area of work move towards the implementation of sustainable development models that will foster conservation of natural resources and ecosystems, climate change mitigation and adaptation, and the use of renewable sources of energy with the aim of reducing social and environmental vulnerabilities and thus achieving greater social equity and environmental justice. Within this area, the project will contribute mainly to the outcome that fosters the sustainable management of natural resources and conservation of biodiversity.

GENDER MARKING

Paraguay enjoys relatively high gender parity. The Civil Code of Paraguay was amended in 1992 to provide women and men the equal rights to enter into marriage. Women's access to land in Paraguay is guaranteed by Article 2 the constitution, which provides that the government must 'promote women's access to land ownership, guaranteeing ownership through access to title deeds'. The Agrarian Act of 2002 protects the rights of women to own and manage land. Overall, CLADEM Paraguay, a women's non-governmental organisation, reported in 2004 that women make up only 9 percent of land owners and own only 8 percent of the land surface. Women and men have exactly the same rights in relation to access to property other than land.

Rural women in Paraguay play an important role in the management of natural resources. This role and its links to biodiversity management remain to be more specifically analysed. Previous biodiversity planning processes have not taken gender issues more specifically into consideration. This will be corrected in the current round.

The project coordination team will ensure that that gender considerations become an integral part of the updated NBSAP. COP guidance will be followed.³ More specifically two pieces of guidance 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 project will use a tried and tested successful method based on cross-sectorial consultations to plan for BD conservation. This method has been used by UNDP and UNEP in other countries for NBSAP preparation, and was found to be cost effective and far superior to having various sectors develop isolated plans.

³See 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.

The cost-effectiveness of the proposed activities will further be ensured by combining government internal, national and international expertise in implementing similar projects. GEF funding of consultation costs will be kept to a minimum, as government can finance much of it from existing resources. The same applies to the national contribution to EA working groups.

The government of Paraguay wishes the work on the new NBSAP to be transformational from a biodiversity planning point of view, in particular with respect to the mainstreaming and ecosystem valuation aspects. Hence, the GEF's financing of specialized consultants and knowledge / capacity building within the framework of this project is essential to its success, to the extent that it finances the costs of going beyond what government would be able to do without foreign assistance. The GEF funding to the project will focus in overcoming this specific barrier. UNDP is well positioned to assist Paraguay source the necessary expertise for this EA project in a cost-effective manner.

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 team UNDP CO UNDP GEF	None	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 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
Terminal Report	Project team UNDP-CO	None	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>		\$2,000	

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): see attached endorsement letter.

NAME	POSITION	MINISTRY	DATE
Daniel González Sosa	General Director – Protection and Conservation of Hydric Resources	Secretariat of the Environment - SEAM	May 20, 2013


B. CONVENTION PARTICIPATION*

CONVENTION	DATE OF RATIFICATION/ ACCESSION (mm/dd/yy)	NATIONAL FOCAL POINT
UNCBD	June 08, 2004	Ignacio Avila Torres

*To be filled for NCSA proposals only

B. GEF AGENCY 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 (Month, day, year)	Project Contact Person	Telephone	E-mail Address
Adriana Dinu, UNDP/GEF Officer-in- Charge and Deputy Executive Coordinator		June 14, 2013	Helen Negret, Regional Technical Adviser Environment and Energy Group	(507) 302-4508	Helen.Negret@undp.org

ANNEX A. CONSULTANTS TO BE HIRED FOR THE ENABLING ACTIVITY

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>[GEF] \$ / Person weekly</i>	<i>Estimated Person Weeks</i>	<i>Tasks to be Performed</i>
For Project Management			
<i>Local</i>			
National Project Director (Government financed)	<i>n.a</i>	<i>n.a</i>	<p>The National Project Director (NPD) is a senior civil servant, who will serve as the focal point for the project within the national executing agency, SEAM. The NPD will give support throughout the duration of the project. <i>The value of the NPD's time was estimated at \$20,880.</i></p> <p>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 the government. - Guide and oversee the work of the Enabling Activities Technical Coordinator on a daily basis together with UNDP; - Certifying the workplans for the project, financial reports and request for advance of funds under the project, ensuring their accuracy and in accordance with the project document; - Be responsible for the conduct of National Project Advisory 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.
Project Specialist on Strategic Planning	600	13.2	<p><i>Objective (managerial):</i> To undertake the general administrative requirements of the project, including those related to the management of the project and its funding. <i>A 15% of the consultant's time will be dedicated to managerial activities.</i></p> <p><i>Key tasks are:</i></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 National Director 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 PSC. - 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 SEAM and the UNDP. - Maintain records of 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 PSC that have direct relevance to the project.
Project Assistant	<i>n.a</i>	<i>n.a</i>	<p><i>Objective</i> Provide general support to the Project Specialist on Strategic Planning with respect to all administrative, financial and logistical requirements of the project. <i>This position will also be financed by the government the value of the PA time was</i></p>

Position Titles	[GEF] \$ / Person weekly	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			<p><i>estimated at \$28,800.</i></p> <p><i>Key tasks are:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Assist in project related activities, in particular the planning and budgeting processes and logistics; - Prepare the project's financial reports on a quarterly basis, maintaining detailed records of expenditure and budget balance; - Provide input into finalization of the project's consolidated Annual Workplan and Budget (which also includes activity descriptions and a chronogram) in a timely manner, reviewing and analysing data with respect to the finalization of cost estimates and budget proposals; - Take a proactive role in the organization of logistics for meetings, workshops and in connection with the contractual engagement of national and international consultants, consultancy firms etc. with respect to all project activities. - Maintain a contact database with national and international organizations and persons which/who can be of assistance to achieving the objective and outcomes of the project. - Assists the Project Team in maintaining records of Project Committee meetings, decisions, actions etc. - Any other duties assigned by the Enabling Activity National Director that have direct relevance to the project.
For Technical Assistance			
<i>Local</i>			
Project Specialist on Strategic Planning	600	74.8	<p><i>Objective (technical):</i> To lead the overall process of the stocktaking, stakeholder consultation, national target setting and the development of the NBSAP in Paraguay and be responsible for the timely drafting and finalization of the NBSAP, the maintenance of the CHM and the production of the 5th National Report to the CBD. (technical inputs, corresponding to 85% of the consultant's time)</p> <p><i>Duties and Responsibilities</i> The Project Specialist on Strategic Planning will be accountable to the Director of the DGPCB in SEAM for the quality, timeliness and effectiveness of the activities carried out, as well as for the use of funds; and will be in charge of the planning, execution, monitoring, administration and supervision of project activities. The PTS will develop the following tasks:</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 UNDP, the GEF and 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 advisors, stakeholders, key national implementing partners and the UNDP technical staff. - Submit draft and revised versions of all studies and reports of the NBSAP activities to NPD, the Project Operative Team, relevant working groups, key national implementing partners and consultants and to UNDP technical staff for review and support in finalization.

Position Titles	[GEF] \$ / Person weekly	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Play a pivotal role in developing the substantive part of the project's work plan and coordinating the input and outputs of all consultants, as well as overseeing the technical quality of deliverables. - Ensure that implementation adheres to the approved work plans and that it reaches the desired results. - Identify implementation partners for the undertaking of the various activities and develop an overall implementation plan. - Prepare the project's monitoring reports, more precisely, the Abridged PIR, the Risk Log, the Terminal Report and the Lessons learned reporting. - Any other duties assigned by the PND that have direct relevance to the project. <p><i>Responsible of the following deliverables</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ An agreed document on procedures and mechanisms governing the NPSC and the multi-sectorial/multi-stakeholder working group and subgroup ➤ An agreed document on the biodiversity planning process ➤ Second National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan for Paraguay ➤ Brief Review of the Biodiversity Planning Process in Paraguay ➤ Set of feasible implementation plans that includes: institutional and legal mechanism, resources mobilization, timeline, etc <p><i>Qualifications and experience:</i> Should have a relevant university degree, preferably with specialization in environmental natural sciences, environmental planning, economics, social sciences, management, administration or related field, preferably with professional exposure to biodiversity conservation issues in Paraguay. Minimum of 10 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 Paraguay, good leadership, coordination, communication, and facilitation skills are essential. Proven track record of drafting relevant materials in the biodiversity/ecosystem management theme (publications, reports and related documentation). Proven ability to collect, verify and analyse information, and to finish and present work with a high degree of accuracy and technical quality. Ability to communicate effectively orally and in writing, in order to communicate complex, technical information to both technical and general audiences. Previous experience in the development of NBSAPs is a plus.</p>
Project Specialist on Conservation Biology	450	88	<p><i>Objective:</i> The provide the technical guidance to the overall process of the stocktaking, national target setting and the development of the NBSAP in Paraguay, as well as to the NBSAP, the CHM and the production of the 5th National Report to the CBD.</p> <p><i>Duties and Responsibilities</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The Project Specialist on Conservation Biologist (CB) will provide technical support to project implementation particularly in the effective and quality delivery of conservation and sustainable use documents. - The CB shall assist the PTS in the development, revision and implementation of Project documentation related to project management, particularly ensuring the high quality of the biodiversity component. - The CB shall assist the other technical specialists in the preparation of the NBSAP, and all research studies related to

Position Titles	[GEF] \$ / Person weekly	Estimated Person Weeks	Tasks to be Performed
			<p>biodiversity.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Development of strategies/concepts documents and other material needed to facilitate the discussion activities carried on under the project frameworks. - Responsible of the development of the NBSAP and the V National Report in coordination and with the cooperation of the POT. - Write in coordination of the SPS all documents and other reports developed under the project - Other activities deemed necessary assigned by the Project Director . - Support the SPS in the identification of the necessary inputs for the NBSAP, including the institutional arrangements, identifying the human, technical and financial needs, and the resources mobilization strategy. - Support the SPS in the hiring, coordination and supervision of consultants related with the area of specialization - Keep regular meetings with the Project Operative Team and participate in the Advisory Committee meetings. <p><i>Responsible of the following deliverables</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A report with the finding of the stocktaking exercise ➤ Document including biodiversity targets for Paraguay and baselines values, including guidelines for their measurement or estimation ➤ Thematic documents guiding the discussion of participatory instances ➤ Fifth National Report to the CBD
Project Specialist on communication and Information Management	450	72	<p><i>Objective:</i> To ensure the development of the Biodiversity Clearing House Mechanism webpage and supportive related system</p> <p><i>Duties and Responsibilities</i> In coordination with the technical team on information, the information management specialist will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop an action plan for the development and implementation of the CHM, in line with the NBSAP updating and ensuring its sustainability once the project is over • Design the CHM, considering the CBD guidelines (UNEP/CBD/CHM/IAC/2010/1/3.), including: the organization of meetings to agree on the scope, roles and responsibilities, content and structure of the CHM • Develop the web portal in coordination with SEAM technical team on information, an information expert to be hired • Develop users' manuals and protocols; and capacity building activities for the web page maintenance. • Develop all the documents and reports concerning the information area according to GEF, UNDP and SEAM requirements. • To work in consultation of the Biodiversity Information Sub-group to be conformed for those institutions that generate and use information that will articulate with this web portal. • Keep updated the information specialist network • Other activities deemed necessary assigned by the Project Director and Advisory Committee. • Support the SPS in the identification of the necessary inputs for the NBSAP, including the institutional arrangements, identifying the human, technical and financial needs, and the resources mobilization strategy.

<i>Position Titles</i>	<i>[GEF] \$ / Person weekly</i>	<i>Estimated Person Weeks</i>	<i>Tasks to be Performed</i>
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the SPS in the hiring, coordination and supervision of consultants related with the area of specialization • Support the SPS in writing and quality assessment of documents and other reports developed under the project • Support the SPS in the planning and implementation of the communication strategy developed under the project and ensure the coordination with other related initiatives • Keep regular meetings with the Project Operative Team, the Biodiversity Information Sub-group and participate in the Advisory Committee meetings. <p><i>Responsible of the following deliverables</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Action plan: activities, chronogram and main products ➤ Biodiversity Clearing House Mechanism webpage and supportive information system ➤ Biodiversity Clearing House Mechanism webpage operation and maintenance manuals

ANNEX B. Indicative Activity Chronogram

Component	Sub-component	Guiding activities under each module	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q5	Q6	Q7	Q8
Component 1	I. Preparation	Project Operative Team and National Project Advisory Committee establishment and project staff recruitment	■							
		Stakeholders identification and establishment of the National Project Advisory Committee & National Working Group	■							
	II. Stocktaking exercise and biodiversity Assessment	Taking stock of the NBSAP and identifying barriers to its implementation	■	■						
		Rapid assessment of the causes and consequences of biodiversity loss	■	■						
		Study on economics of biodiversity and ecosystem services		■	■					
	III. Setting national targets, principles & main priorities of the strategy	Setting national targets and priorities			■	■				
		Baseline values for national targets are calculated or estimated, and guidelines for their calculation/measurement are established			■	■				
Component 2	IV. Developing the NBSAP	Writing, editing and publishing the Second National Biodiversity Strategy in line with CBD requirements			■	■	■	■	■	
		Developing in a participative manner the National, sector/thematic Action Plans of the NBS (Invasive Alien Species, Protected Areas, Financial Mechanisms among others)		■	■	■	■	■	■	
Component 3	V. Development of an implementation plan	Development of an implementation plan for priority activities of the NBSAP							■	■
	VI. Institutionalizing, monitoring and reporting	Developing a clearinghouse mechanisms (CHM)		■	■	■	■	■	■	■
		Monitoring and reporting on the status of biodiversity		■	■	■	■	■	■	■
		Writing, editing and publishing the V National Report		■	■					

ANNEX C. 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 \(download\)](#)

Annex D. UNDP 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	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	8,000	8,000	0	a
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Contractual Services - Individ	11,880	5,940	5,940	b
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Contractual Services - Individ	13,200	6,600	6,600	c
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Contractual Services - Individ	6,480	3,240	3,240	d
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	1,000	1,000	0	e
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	3,000	3,000	0	f
GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 1 (Comp 1)						43,560	27,780	15,780	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 1 (Comp 1)						43,560	27,780	15,780	
Comp 2. NBSAP update	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	7,000	3,500	3,500	t
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	7,000	3,500	3,500	g
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	16,000	6,000	10,000	h
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	4,000	0	4,000	a
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Contractual Services - Individ	18,480	9,240	9,240	c
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Contractual Services - Individ	23,760	11,880	11,880	b
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Contractual Services - Individ	6,480	3,240	3,240	d
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	4,000	2,000	2,000	i
NIM	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	3,000	1,000	2,000	j	
GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 2 (Comp 2)						89,720	40,360	49,360	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 2 (Comp 2)						89,720	40,360	49,360	
Comp 3. National frameworks for NBSAP implementation, CDB reporting and exchange mechanisms	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Contractual Services - Individ	13,200	6,600	6,600	c
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Contractual Services - Individ	3,960	1,980	1,980	b
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71300	Contractual Services - Individ	19,440	9,720	9,720	d
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71600	Travel	1,000	500	500	k
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	72100	Contractual Services-Companies	3,000	1,000	2,000	l
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	74100	Professional Services	6,000	0	6,000	m
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	74100	Professional Services	10,000	0	10,000	n
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	74200	Audio Visual&Print Prod Costs	12,000	0	12,000	o
GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 3 (Comp 3)						68,600	19,800	48,800	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 3 (Comp 3)						68,600	19,800	48,800	
Project Mgt	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	71400	Contractual Services - Individ	7,920	3,960	3,960	c
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	72500	Supplies	2,000	1,000	1,000	p
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	72800	Information Technology Equipmt	2,000	2,000	0	q
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	74100	Professional Services	2,000	0	2,000	r
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	74500	Miscellaneous Expenses	1,000	500	500	s
	NIM	62000	GEF-10003	74599	UNDP Direct project Service costs	4,000	2,000	2,000	u
GEF Subtotal Atlas Activity 4 (Proj Mgt)						18,920	9,960	8,960	
TOTAL ACTIVITY 4 (Project Management)						18,920	9,960	8,960	
GRAND TOTAL (Grant)						220,800	97,900	122,900	

Budget notes	
a	Output based consultancy: Study on Biodiversity Economics and Financial Mechanism for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable use - \$12K or 24 weeks in total, spread across Components 1 and 2 in a pro rata manner (Refer to ToRs in EA proposal Annex A)
b	Nat. Cons. (medium/long-term): Specialist on Conservation Biology - \$39.6K or 88 weeks in total, spread across Components 1, 2 and 3 in a pro rata manner (Refer to ToRs in EA proposal Annex A)
c	Nat. Cons. (medium/long-term): Project Specialist on Strategic Planning & Technical Secretary - \$52.8K or 88 weeks in total, broken down between technical tasks (corresponding to 85% of the consultant's time and spread across components in a pro rata manner) and managerial tasks (15% included in the project management component). (Refer to ToRs in EA proposal Annex A)
d	Nat. Cons. (medium/long-term): Specialist on communication and information management - \$32.4K or 72 weeks in total, spread across Components 1, 2 and 3 in a pro rata manner (Refer to ToRs in EA proposal Annex A)
e	Travel and fuel costs in connection with stocktaking activities, including stakeholder articulation for valuation mechanisms, threats to biodiversity identification, and the implementation of a network of key stakeholders
f	Consultation and dissemination events for ensuring the wide involvement of stakeholders in the process of stocktaking and setting national targets
g	Output based consultancy: Study on Biodiversity and Climate Change - \$7K or 14 weeks in total (Refer to ToRs in EA proposal Annex A)
h	Output based consultancy: Developing and Invasive Alien Species Action Plan - \$16K for 2 consultants for 16 weeks in total (Refer to ToRs in EA proposal Annex A)
i	Travel and fuel cost related with the process of updating NBSAP
j	Consultation and dissemination events for ensuring the wide involvement of stakeholders in the process of updating NBSAP.
k	Travel and fuel cost related with the process of developing the CHM
l	Consultation and dissemination events for ensuring the wide involvement of stakeholders in the process of developing the CHM
m	Professional services for programming the Biodiversity CHM webpage according to the guidelines given by the Specialist on Communication and Information Management
n	Professional services for designing and editing the NBSAP and V National Report according to the technical content and guidelines given by the Project Technical Secretary
o	Publishing the NBSAP and V National Report (400 copies of each in Spanish; 100 of each in English)
p	Office supplies (e.g. stationary, printer cartridges, fuel, among others)
q	Office equipment (laptop computer, printer and photocopier, others)
r	Professional services for financial audit
s	Bank charges, insurance, exchange rate fluctuations and miscellaneous expenses.
t	Output based consultancy: Study on developing a roadmap for Nagoya Protocol - \$7K or 14 weeks in total (Refer to ToRs in EA proposal Annex E)
u	<p>Estimated costs of Direct Project Services</p> <p>Estimated UNDP Direct Project Service/Cost recovery charges to UNDP for executing services. In accordance with GEF Council requirements, the costs of these services will be part of the executing entity's Project Management Cost allocation identified in the project budget. DPS costs would be charged at the end of each year based on the UNDP Universal Price List (UPL) or the actual corresponding service cost. The amounts here are estimations based on the services indicated, however as part of annual project operational planning the DPS to be requested during the calendar year would be defined and the amount included in the yearly project management budgets and would be charged based on actual services provided at the end of that year.</p>

Annex E: Terms of Reference of Consultancy Services

As per the Total Budget and Workplan (TBW) in Annex D of this proposal, four output-based consultancies are planned under the project. This Annex describes the work under each of them. The content herein will form the basis to prepare complete **Requests for Proposals**³ for each consultancy. Below is the overview:

#	Title of the Output-based consultancy	Amount reserved in the TBW (\$)	TBW Budget Note reference
1	Study on biodiversity economic and non-economic values & proposal of a roadmap for the implementation of financial mechanism for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use (1 consultant 24 weeks aprox)	12,000	a
2	Guidelines for considering climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience issues in to the NBSAP (1 consultant 14 weeks aprox)	7,000	g
3	Invasive Alien Species Action Plan Proposal (2 consultants, 16 weeks aprox)	16,000	h
4	Proposal of a roadmap for the implementation of the international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing (Nagoya Protocol) (1 consultant 14 weeks aprox.)	7,000	t

The complete **Requests for Proposals** prepared by UNDP normally has the following structure:

- i. Instructions to Offertory
- ii. General Conditions of Contract
- iii. Terms of Reference (TOR)
- iv. Proposal Submission Form
- v. Price Schedule

In this annex, **only the TORs are described**. The remainder of the chapters of the Requests for Quotes will be completed before launching the tenders and after due validation by UNDP.

The complete TOR for Requests for Quotes will include the following headings:

- (1) Summary
- (2) Background
- (3) Objective of the Consultancy
- (4) Scope of Work
- (5) Expected Results
- (6) Duty station
- (7) Requirements to the documents
- (8) Responsibility
- (9) Qualification requirements
- (10) Available information
- (11) Selection Process
- (12) Payment methods

Section 1 of the TOR is the same for all three output-based consultancies and it is presented further down. Its contents may be further detailed in Section 2, though this is not included here (may be prepared later or suppressed). Sections 6, 7 and 8 are also common to all four output-based consultancies and are included after the description of Section 1. Sections 9, 10, 11 and 12 are to be completed before launching the tenders.

Common Sections to all four TORs

(1) Summary

Paraguay 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, each representing one Component 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) Paraguay's National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) is revised/updated and it fully integrates new aspects of the CBD strategic plan, as well as national priorities. Among other issues it will include mainstreaming biodiversity into development policies, plans and practices and into sectorial 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. Among the priority sectors and development areas / topics identified are:

- Main economic sectors (agriculture and large scale developments);
- Strategic areas (marine and coastal area, and the National Protected Areas System); and
- Strategic crosscutting themes (invasive alien species, land use planning and management, financing biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, poverty alleviation and rural development and livelihoods, and climate change).

3) National frameworks for NBSAP implementation (including resource mobilization, institutional framework, among others). 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. In order to do this, the technical team of SEAM will be strengthened with expertise providing knowledge and capacity building services to the institution.

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

[Areas of expertise are specific to each consultancy]

(5) Duty station:

- Home based, for the completion of certain reports

(6) Requirements to the documents

- Draft and final documents should be submitted in Spanish in MS Word (2007 and 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 Project Technical Secretary and Project Director;
- Ensures timely and quality execution of the Terms of Reference;
- Ensures unconditional implementation of requirements of the contract
- Participate, upon request, in the Project Operative Team, Project Advisory Group and sub-groups meetings.

Specific Sections for each of the four TORs (to be further developed/improved during the project implementation)

[Annex E-1]

OUTPUT-BASED CONSULTANCY 1:

Study on Economics and Financial Mechanism for Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use

(3) Objective of the Consultancy

Provide knowledge and capacity building services to the government of Paraguay, as well as other key stakeholders in the economic and non economic values of biodiversity and ecosystem goods and services; as well as in the implementation of financial mechanism for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use.

(4) Scope of Work

As part of the process of developing specific inputs to Paraguay's NBSAP, this Consultancy will be a main input for developing Output 1 given that by assessing economic and non-economic values of biodiversity and ecosystem services, as well as the cost of unsustainable use, concrete data can be given to justify the need of developing a national biodiversity strategy as well as prioritizing issues, aiming to mainstreaming biodiversity priority issues into sectoral and other areas.

A second part of the consultancy will be related with the development of a roadmap to implement financial mechanism for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in line with the national strategy.

Although the contribution of the consultant to the final product is expected to be central, the consultant will not work alone. It is expected the consultant to work in closely collaboration with the Project Operative Team. Furthermore, a specific Sectorial Advisory Group, within the framework of the Project Advisory Group, related with financial and economic issues is expected to be established⁴,

and will support and give advice to the activities implemented under this contract. It will work under direct supervision of the Project Technical Secretariat.

Among others, key tasks will include the following:

Ecosystem services

- Identify and assess the full range of economic and non-economic 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.
- Identify the implications of selected 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. This analysis should include both market and non-market values.
- Use the results of this assessment to recommend thematic research concerning the valuation of biodiversity;

Financial mechanism for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use

- Identification of the full range of existing and planned incentive measures for biodiversity conservation on privately owned land in Paraguay and the policies related to these incentives; analysis of the effectiveness and adequacy of existing incentive measures.
- Identification of the full range of incentive measures that could be potentially employed to enhance biodiversity conservation in Paraguay (i.e. payments for ecosystem services, conservation trust funds, biodiversity off-sets, among others). Analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of each measure.
- Identification of improper incentives and propose how their negative effects on biodiversity can be removed or mitigated. Analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of each measure.
- Set recommendations for the implementation of selected measures for mainstreaming biodiversity in different productive sectors and activities.

(5) Expected Results

- Review of ecosystem services in Paraguay including selected case studies
- Thematic research agenda concerning the valuation of biodiversity
- Review of representative existing incentive measures for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use and their current and potential application to the Paraguayan case
- Provide inputs for developing a strategy and action plan for financial resources mobilization for biodiversity conservation and sustainable use in prioritized areas/topics.

[Annex E-2]

OUTPUT-BASED CONSULTANCY 2:

Development guidelines for considering climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience issues in to the NBSAP

(3) Objective of the Consultancy

Provide knowledge and capacity building services to the government of Paraguay, as well as other key stakeholder involved in the implementation of the Biodiversity Enabling Activities Project, to consider climate change adaptation and mitigation in biodiversity conservation and sustainable use planning process.

(4) Scope of Work

As part of the process of developing specific inputs to Paraguay's NBSAP, this Consultancy will be a main input for developing Component 1 given that the values of biodiversity to climate change mitigation and adaptation will be assessed, being an element to be considered in setting priorities and national targets. Furthermore, it will be a main input to be considered in the development of the general biodiversity strategy and action plan.

Although its contribution to the final product is expected to be absolutely central, the Consultancy will not work alone. It is expected the consultant to work in closely collaboration with the Project Operative Team, working under direct supervision of the Project Technical Secretariat. The Project Advisory Group will be another instance of advice and support.

Among others, key tasks will include the following:

- Play a key role in assisting the project in ensuring the incorporation of climate change issues into NBSAP by tapping into world class knowledge on the matter, including, but not restricted to the work of the Ad hoc Technical Expert Group (AHTEG).⁵

- Based on existing data and fine resolution GIS modelling, identify potential areas important for carbon sequestration in Paraguay and make recommendations for their protection, 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 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.
- Develop project concepts crosscutting to the CBD and the UNFCCC procedures and guidelines (as for example NAMAS, among others)

(5) Expected Results

- Characterization, including geographically referenced (if possible), on important areas for climate change adaptation, mitigation and resilience in Paraguay and recommendations for their protection and enhancing their capabilities
- Annotated guidelines for considering climate change mitigation, adaptation and resilience issues in to the NBSAP
- Project portfolio, including project concepts crosscutting to the CBD and the UNFCCC (as for example NAMAS, among others)

[Annex E-3] OUTPUT-BASED CONSULTANCY 3: Invasive Alien Species Action Plan Proposal

(3) Objective of the Consultancy

Provide knowledge and strengthening capacities of the government of Paraguay, as well as other key stakeholder, in the early detection and rapid response, monitoring, prevention, control, impact assessment of invasive species (IS) in aquatic as well as terrestrial ecosystems.

(4) Scope of Work

As part of the process of developing specific inputs to Paraguay's NBSAP, this Consultancy will be a main input for Component 2 by developing specific action plans for prioritized sectors, in particular an Invasive Species Action Plan.

Although the contribution to the final product of this team of consultant is expected to be absolutely central, the Consultancy Team will not work alone. It is expected to work in closely collaboration with the Project Operative Team, working under direct supervision of the Project Technical Secretariat. Furthermore, the consultant will work in direct collaboration with the COTAMA ad hoc working group "Technical Assessment Committee on Invasive Species".

Among others, key tasks will include the following:

- Identification of priority issues (i.e. priority species, priority geographical areas, priority sector)
- Establishment of objectives, and short and medium term targets related to IS
- Development a Manager's Tool Kit for priority issues (i.e. early detection and rapid response, monitoring, prevention, control, impact assessment, among others)
- Identification and description of priority actions
- Specification and agreement upon of the institutional arrangements for ensuring implementation and follow up of the priority actions
- Specification of human, technical and financial resources necessary to carry out the proposed actions
- Establishment of a monitoring approach including the identification of indicators by which progress made in the proposed activities and towards national targets are measured.

(5) Expected Results

- An Invasive Species National Action Plan, that consider aquatic as well as terrestrial ecosystems., developed within the framework of the COTAMA ad hoc working group "Technical Assessment Committee on Invasive Species" and the "Management Guidelines for Invasive Species" published by this Committee in 2010.

[Annex E-4]

OUTPUT-BASED CONSULTANCY 4:

Proposal of a roadmap for the implementation of the international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing (Nagoya Protocol)

(3) Objective of the Consultancy

Provide knowledge and strengthening capacities of the government of Paraguay, as well as other key stakeholder, in the the implementation of the international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing (Nagoya Protocol)

(4) Scope of Work

As part of the process of developing specific inputs to Paraguay's NBSAP, this Consultancy will be a main input for Component 2 by giving advice to the government and other related stakeholders on the implementation of the international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing (Nagoya Protocol).

Although the contribution to the final product of this consultant is expected to be absolutely central, the consultant will not work alone. It is expected to work in closely collaboration with the Project Operative Team, working under direct supervision of the Project Technical Secretariat. Furthermore, a specific Sectorial Advisory Group, within the framework of the Project Advisory Group, related genetic resources and benefit sharing issues is expected to be established⁶, and will support and give advice to the activities implemented under this contract. It will work under direct supervision of the Project Technical Secretariat.

Among others, key tasks will include the following:

- Review of the institutional and legal framework regarding the topic of access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing
- To make an impact study to assist with the analysis of the legal and economic aspects of implementing the Nagoya Protocol in Paraguay
- To develop a roadmap to implementing the most pressing issues, together with a strategy for resources mobilization

(5) Expected Results

- A proposal of a roadmap for the implementation of the international regime on access to genetic resources and benefit-sharing (Nagoya Protocol), including a proposal for advancing in the legal and institutional framework; and the development of a project concept note to submit for resources mobilization

³ With reference to the applicable procurement process for the type of services being sought and budget allocated to financing them.

⁴ Members of this sub-group are to be defined during the process, though it is expected to have representative of the main ministries related with productive activities as well as representative from the Parliament, among others

⁵ See e.g. www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-41-en.pdf , www.cbd.int/doc/publications/for-redd-en.pdf and www.cbd.int/doc/publications/cbd-ts-50-en.pdf.

⁶ Members of this sub-group are to be defined during the process, though it is expected to be based on an expanded National Committee of Phytogenetic Resources (Decree 151/95)

Annex F: Letter of Agreement
Signed version on a separate file



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LETTER OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNDP AND THE SECRETARIAT OF ENVIRONMENT OF PARAGUAY FOR THE PROVISION OF SERVICES TO SUPPORT THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE "UPDATE OF NATIONAL STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN FOR THE BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION OF" AWARD 00074397 IN THE CONTEXT OF THE NATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION MODALITY

1. Within the framework of the "National Strategy Update and Action Plan for the Conservation of Biodiversity", the UNDP and the Ministry of Environment of Paraguay (hereinafter the counterparty) express their agreement for UNDP to provide support services to the aforementioned project implementation, in accordance with the counterpart and the project document signed by the parties
2. The UNDP country office may provide support services for assistance with reporting requirements and direct payment. In providing such support services, the UNDP country office shall ensure that the capacity of the Government-designated institution is strengthened to enable it to carry out such activities directly. The costs incurred by the UNDP country office in providing such support services shall be recovered from the administrative budget of the office.
3. The UNDP country office may provide, at the request of the designated institution, the following support services for the activities of the programme/project:
 - (a) Identification and/or recruitment of project and programme personnel;
 - (b) Identification and facilitation of training activities;
 - (c) Procurement of goods and services;
4. The procurement of goods and services and the recruitment of project and programme personnel by the UNDP country office shall be in accordance with the UNDP regulations, rules, policies and procedures. Support services described in paragraph 3 above shall be detailed in an annex to the programme support document or project document, in the form provided in the Attachment hereto. If the requirements for support services by the country office change during the life of a programme or project, the annex to the programme support document or project document is revised with the mutual agreement of the UNDP resident representative and the designated institution.
5. The relevant provisions of the Special Standard Agreement between the Government of Paraguay and the United Nations Development Programme signed on October 10th, 1977 (the "SSA"), including the provisions on liability and privileges and immunities, shall apply to the provision of such support services. The Government shall retain overall responsibility for the nationally managed programme or project through its designated institution. The responsibility of the UNDP country office for the provision of the support services described herein shall be limited to the provision of such support services detailed in the annex to the programme support document or project document.
6. Any claim or dispute arising under or in connection with the provision of support services by the UNDP country office in accordance with this letter shall be handled pursuant to the relevant provisions of the SSA and the project document.



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7. The manner and method of cost-recovery by the UNDP country office in providing the support services described in paragraph 3 above shall be specified in the annex to the programme support document or project document.
8. The UNDP country office shall submit progress reports on the support services provided and shall report on the costs reimbursed in providing such services, as may be required.
9. Any modification of the present arrangements shall be effected by mutual written agreement of the parties hereto.
10. If you are in agreement with the provisions set forth above, please sign and return to this office three signed copies of this letter. Upon your signature, this letter shall constitute an agreement between your Government and UNDP on the terms and conditions for the provision of support services by the UNDP country office for nationally managed programmes and projects.

Yours sincerely,

Lorenzo Jiménez de Luis
Resident Representative

UNDP Paraguay

Ignacio Ávila
General Director

General Directorate of Protection
and Biodiversity Conservation

Attachment

DESCRIPTION OF UNDP COUNTRY OFFICE SUPPORT SERVICES

1. Reference is made to consultations between the Secretary of Environment, the institution designated by the Government of Paraguay and representatives of UNDP with respect to the provision of support services by the UNDP country office for the nationally managed programme or project "Update of National Strategy and Action Plan for the Biodiversity Conservation of" AWARD 00074397.

2. In accordance with the provisions of the letter of agreement signed on *Date of signature (LOA)* and the project document, the UNDP country office shall provide support services for the Project as described below.

3. Support services to be provided:

Support services* (insert description)	Schedule for the provision of the support services	Cost to UNDP of providing such support services (where appropriate)	Amount and method of reimbursement of UNDP (where appropriate)
1. Payments, disbursements and other financial transactions	During project implementation	Universal Price List	Support Services
2. Recruitment of staff, project personnel, and consultants	During project implementation	Universal Price List	Support Services
3. Procurement of services and equipment, and disposal/sale of equipment	During project implementation	Universal Price List	Support Services
4. Organization of training activities, conferences, and workshops, including fellowships	During project implementation	Universal Price List	Support Services
5. Travel authorizations, visa requests, ticketing, and travel arrangements	During project implementation	Universal Price List	Support Services
6. Shipment, custom clearance, vehicle registration, and accreditation	During project implementation	Universal Price List	Support Services

* UNDP direct project support services will be defined yearly, and for those executed during the period, direct project costs will be charged at the end of each year based on the UNDP Universal Pricelist (UPL) or the actual corresponding service cost



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4. Description of duties and responsibilities of the parties involved:

The project will be conducted through the National Implementation Modality (NIM). The Secretariat of Environment (SEAM), will act as a partner in the National Implementation, through the General Directorate of Protection and Biodiversity Conservation (hereinafter DGPCB), and with the support of UNDP as GEF Implementing Agency. The DGPCB will be responsible for directing and managing the project and monitor the compliance of project work plans as a basis for its implementation.

The process will take place at three levels: (i) *The National Project Steering* (ii) *Project Operational Team*, (iii) *Advisory Group and Project Sector Advisory Groups*.

The SEAM will appoint a senior executive as National Project Director (NPD) for the implementation of the project, which may be the Minister of the SEAM, the General Director of DGPCB or another instance to be duly appointed by resolution. The DNP will receive technical support from the Project Operational Team as well as technical support from the UNDP provided by the UNDP/GEF Regional Technical Advisory responsible for project and the Environment and Energy Programme Officer of the UNDP Office in the country.

The *Project Operational Team* (EOP) will consist of members of the SEAM DGPCB, and will be strengthened with experts from key areas, mainly: strategic planning, conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, strategic management of information and communication. An administrative assistant can also be hired.

UNDP will provide technical and operational support necessary for the implementation of the activities and results of this project and shall ensure that all consultant contracts, purchase orders and service contracts for the project are in accordance with UNDP rules and procedures.

Project authorities will undertake contracts and procurement for all purchases of less than USD 10,000. These minor operations will comply with the rules and procedures contained in the for National Implementation projects Manual. The Manual can be viewed on the UNDP website: www.py.undp.org. According to the above, the ownership of equipment, spare parts and other goods financed with project funds will be of the UNDP. The transfer of property rights will be determined in accordance with the policies and procedures of UNDP. All goods will be considered property of UNDP until its transfer to the SEAM.



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UNDP will assist in the administration of the funds provided by GEF. UNDP will be able to support the management of any additional funds for co-financing of this project. These measures shall be included in the corresponding project document or Memorandum of Understanding. The contributions will be subject to audit established in the UNDP financial regulations rules.