

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME
Global Environment Facility

Proposal for Additional Funding of Biodiversity Enabling Activity (Add-on)

Country Name:	Philippines
Project Title:	Assessment of Capacity Building Needs for Biodiversity Conservation and Management in the Philippines
Country Eligibility:	Ratified the Convention on Biological diversity in October 1993
GEF Financing:	Enabling Activity -- Add-on
Government Contribution:	\$40,000
Estimated Total Budget:	\$157,350
GEF Implementing Agency:	United Nations Development Programme
National Executing Agency:	Department of Environment and Natural Resources -- Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (DENR-PAWB)
GEF Operational Focal Point:	Mario S. Rono Undersecretary, DENR
CBD Operational Focal Point:	DENR-PAWB
CHM Focal Point:	DENR-PAWB
Estimated Starting Date:	August 2001
Duration:	Fifteen (15) months

I. ENABLING ACTIVITY (EA) STATUS

In 1997, the Philippines published its National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) through an UNEP-GEF enabling activity project. It reinforced the paradigm shift towards multi-sectoral collaboration, and the need to establish stronger social and institutional infrastructure to make community co-management actually work in practice. In the preparation of the NBSAP, a number of workshops and consultations were organized and conducted to obtain inputs from various sectors, disciplines and regions of the country. The NBSAP was presented and endorsed by the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development (PCSD). The PCSD's Sub-Committee on Biodiversity likewise provided some refinements to the NBSAP.

The Philippines submitted its First Philippine National Report to the Convention on Biological Diversity during the Fourth Conference of the Parties (COP4) held in Bratislava in May 1998. The

Report was prepared under the UNDP-GEF follow-on enabling activity project, which also paved the way to the establishment of the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM). The preparation of the report is in compliance to Article 26 of the CBD, as agreed upon during the COP3 held in Buenos Aires in 1996. The National focal Point for the CHM for the Convention on Biodiversity is the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau. The CHM was structured in accordance with the CBD and contain information on the following: country profile on biodiversity; NBSAP; national legislation and policies on biodiversity; technological information; research results; services and help desk, including thematic focal areas such as agricultural biodiversity, IPR, etc. The Philippine Sustainable Development Network hosts the CHM server.

The First National Report disseminated information on the measures implemented to conserve biodiversity for the period of 1992-1998, including capacity to implement these measures in terms of research, training, public education and awareness and information exchange. The Report describes the level of support in terms of financial resources earmarked for biodiversity conservation and management, as well as future directions for conservation efforts in the country. The Report also includes a summary of the NBSAP and a profile of the country's biological resources.

This proposed "add-on" project will focus on capacity assessment on specific areas described below and will help in consultations toward the Philippine Second National Report to the CBD. The results of capacity assessment will serve as input into the various biodiversity conservation projects, particularly capacity-building activities, being implemented by the Government and NGOs. It will also allow implementation of a priority country driven clearinghouse mechanism (CHM) project.

II. OBJECTIVES

The overall objective of the project is to assess the capacity building needs of the Philippines to implement the NBSAP and fulfill its commitment to the CBD.

Specifically, the project will assess capacity needs to undertake the following tasks:

1. Implementation of general measures for in-situ and ex-situ conservation and sustainable use, including national plans, strategies and legislations;
2. Initial assessment and monitoring programs, including taxonomy;
3. Conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity important to agriculture;
4. Preservation and maintenance of biodiversity-related knowledge, innovations and practices of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles;
5. Preparation of the Philippines Second National Report to CBD due on 15 May 2001; and
6. Maintenance and updating of Clearing House Mechanism (CHM).

The above-mentioned priorities have been selected from the priorities identified in the NBSAP and from the regional workshops conducted under the National Biodiversity Conservation Priority-Setting Project (NBCPS). Consultative meetings with various agencies, multi-sectoral groups and within the Bureau had been conducted to prioritize the various capacity needs for additional funding assistance. Existing capacity assessments addressed in on-going projects on biodiversity were given

least priority such as the needs assessment on methodologies to evaluate and mitigate specific threats to biodiversity components, as well as incentive measures. The Philippine participates in the UNEP Global Biosafety project and enabling activities related to the Cartagena Protocol on Biosafety will be addressed in this global project. The PAWB-DENR decided on the final priorities in its capacity as focal point to the CBD. The Government of Philippines and UNDP/GEF are satisfied this proposal conforms with the GEF Criteria for additional financing of biodiversity enabling activities.

III. Assessment of Priority Capacity Building Needs

Capacity assessment in the following areas will be done through needs assessment: identification of priorities and consensus building process through stakeholder participation.

Priority	Reason for Selection	Work to be done	Product Expected	Notes
<p>Implementation of general measures for in-situ and ex-situ conservation and sustainable use, including national plans, strategies and legislation</p>	<p>Enacted in 1992, the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Law provides for the establishment and management of a network of protected areas to promote the twin objectives of biodiversity conservation and sustainable development. An innovative approach in the NIPAS Law is the decentralized system of PA management. The management of each protected area is with the Protected Area Management Board (PAMB), which is a multi-sectoral body that consists of representatives from the local government units, national government units, NGOs and indigenous people.</p>	<p>The NBSAP clearly identified the shortage of expertise as one of the major drawbacks in the conservation of biodiversity and sustainable development. The add-on proposal will assess the existing capacities of the PAMB, particularly the local government units, other government agencies, indigenous people and non-government organizations. The project will assess the overall capacity of each sector involved in protected area management.</p>	<p>Identification of capacity constraints and capacity development strategies including human resources and training, information for planning and decision making needed to effectively manage and monitor protected areas.</p>	<p>This activity will complement the training needs assessment efforts being undertaken by the PAWB in coordination with the EU-funded ASEAN Biodiversity Research Center (ARCBC). The ARCBC and PAWB are currently assessing the competency gaps of the DENR employees in biodiversity and protected area management as well as training programs for biodiversity.</p>
<p>Although explicitly stated in the NIPAS Law, the creation of the PAMBs for each of the 209 identified initial component of the NIPAS has yet to be realised. At present, only 108 sites have created their PAMBs. Moreover, most of them have not been active in protected area management. This may be attributed to their lack of knowledge in PA management and poor capacity.</p>				

<p>Initial assessment and monitoring programs, including taxonomy</p>	<p>Research gaps and monitoring needs have been initially identified in the Biodiversity Country Study and was followed through in a study conducted by a team of consultants commissioned by the Dutch government. The latter study also explored the possibilities of formulating collaborative research program in the field of biodiversity and sustainable development.</p>	<p>Efforts to rationalize agenda setting are currently being done under the National Biodiversity Conservation Project Priority-Setting Project (NBCPS). The NBCPS aims to identify, assess and prioritize specific geographic areas for biodiversity conservation in the country through an established process. The add-on activity will complement the efforts of the NBCPS. A national consultative workshop will be held to bring together policy makers, NGOs, research and academic institutions, including the business sector to present the results of the NBCPS and establish a network for monitoring.</p>	<p>The main output of the workshop will be a mechanism build capacity for effective assessment and monitoring of the status of biodiversity.</p>	
<p>Conservation and use of biodiversity important to agriculture</p>	<p>Unsustainable agricultural practices have caused negative impacts on biological diversity, particularly at the ecosystems level. Inappropriate reliance on monoculture, mechanization and misuse of agricultural chemicals to achieve higher production diminish the diversity of flora, fauna and micro-organisms as well soil fertility. In contrast, traditional agricultural farmers are known to have actively</p>	<p>The add-on activity intends to assess and document capacity development needs to ensure conservation of existing sustainable and traditional agricultural practices and associated agro-biodiversity. A consultative planning workshop will be conducted to formulate an action plan to build capacity to document and conserve</p>	<p>Identification of capacity constraints and an action plan for building capacity at the policy, regulatory, institutional and human resource levels.</p>	

	<p>managed and enhanced the germplasm by selecting for a changing spectrum of needs. They have consistently maintained biodiversity, planted mixed crops systematically to achieve natural crosses, practiced selection and set up their gene banks as well as exchange system for acquiring genetic resources.</p>	<p>traditional agricultural practices as well as priority agrobiodiversity areas and species.</p>	
<p>Preservation/maintenance of biodiversity related knowledge of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles</p>	<p>The recognition of the customary rights of indigenous peoples (IPs) to their ancestral domains and the perpetration of their culture, indigenous knowledge, practices and systems is given emphasis in the NIPAS Law.</p>	<p>The add-on request aims to identify and assess capacity development needs to conserve indigenous knowledge, techniques and practices. The assessment will entail the conduct of meetings and consultations and a national workshop involving decision makers, socio-economic experts and anthropologists from various universities in the country, NGOs, IPs and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles.</p>	<p>The main output will be a capacity development plan highlighting capacity constraints, identifying the sources of indigenous knowledge, techniques. The plan will identify capacity development needs at the policy, regulatory, institutional and human resource levels.</p>

Country Driven CHM Project

The add-on project would strengthen the CHM and define mechanisms that would ensure its sustained operation. Its main objective would remain in conformity with that defined in COP1, and to comply with the Philippine's commitment to the CBD. Specifically, the project would (a) strengthen the CHM according to the information needs determined by earlier consultations on information networking workshop sponsored by the ARCBC and to be confirmed in future consultations that will be held in relation to this project; (b) define and operationalize a mechanism for exchange taking into consideration existing modes and the recommended protocols by earlier efforts especially those of the ARCBC, PSDN, and other entities, and (c) prepare a strategic and if possible, a long-term plan for the CHM operation taking into consideration country-driven needs and recommendations by the Independent Review of the CHM Pilot Phase and the other decisions and recommendations of the COP and SBSSTA on the subject.

Thus, this component of this EA would have the following expected outputs:

- a) A new and strengthened CHM launched, maintained for at least one year (which is the duration of the project)
- b) A mechanism of exchange in place and operational;
- c) A strategic plan for the sustained operation of the CHM.

The country driven CHM project will strengthen/expand the institutional framework for biodiversity conservation developed through the financial assistance of the IUCN. The CHM would serve as venue for addressing networking needs of the ARCBC and the national biodiversity coordination efforts, in general. The add-on request aims to establish a monitoring network to ensure that the specific recommendations from the NBCPS Workshop are implemented. When operational, the country driven CHM will be a tool to ensure that the NBSAP is continuously being reviewed and publicized especially in relation to how it is addressing biodiversity issues in the country as well as how it is addressing our commitments to the CBD.

Second National Report to the CBD.

In accordance with COP decision V/19, the project team will undertake a consultative process with national stakeholders towards the Philippines Second National Report. Meetings will be held with key stakeholders and questionnaires will be disseminated. A National workshop will be held to solicit information and review the draft report prior to endorsement by the PAWB, DENR and submission to the CBD. The report will be prepared at the earliest possible and submitted to the CBD.

IV. IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENTS

The project shall be executed by the PAWB-DENR, as the focal agency for CBD and CHM in the Philippines. A Project Coordinator shall be designated by PAWB-DENR and shall be in-charge with directing and supervising its overall project implementation. A Project Steering Committee shall be created to provide policy guidance and oversight functions to the project. Working groups will be formed composing of members from PAWB Staff to provide technical direction and secretariat

support to the project. National consultants will be hired for the project implementation. Support staff will be provided by DENR-PAWB.

V. BUDGET

PHILIPPINES: ADDITIONAL ENABLING ACTIVITIES ON BIODIVERSITY

ACTIVITY	PRODUCT	PROCESS	TOTAL (US\$)
APPROVED EARLIER (A)			
☐ Original EA, less cost of CHM activities	(no entry required)		256,350
☐ CHM support (provided through add-on module or project itself)			36,300
Total approved support			292,650
ADDITIONAL REQUEST (B)			157,350
TOTAL REQUEST (A+B)			450,000
Assessment of Capacity-building needs for:			
☐ Implementation of measures for in-situ and ex-situ conservation and sustainable use	8,350	22,100	30,450
☐ Initial assessment and monitoring programs, including taxonomy	6,800	27,000	33,800
☐ Conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity important for agriculture	10,400	15,000	25,400
☐ Preservation/maintenance of biodiversity related knowledge of indigenous and local communities embodying traditional lifestyles	7,850	19,300	27,150
Sub total	33,400	83,400	116,800
Consultations for the 2 nd National Report to the CBD		13,500	13,500
Country-driven project for participation in the Clearing House Mechanism	15,700	11,350	27,050
Total new request	49,100	108,250	157,350

VI. TIMETABLE OF ACTIVITIES

Activities	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Designation of Project Coordinator and Creation of PSC	■														
Project Steering Committee Meetings			■						■						■
Finalize of TOR of Consultant and Technical Assistant	■														
Finalize EA work and financial plan	■														
Creation of working groups	■														
Informal consultations, meetings of working groups with national stakeholders	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
National consultations/workshops on: - 2 nd National Report - Assessment of capacity of PAMB PA management - Assessment of existing taxonomic knowledge and capacity - Assessment of existing sustainable and traditional agricultural practices - Assessment of indigenous knowledge related to biodiversity Conservation		■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■				
Country driven CHM project			■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Preparation and finalization of assessment reports on capacity building needs				■		■			■		■				
Presentation of final assessment reports													■		
Submission of reports to national implementing agencies and other stakeholders for action - (Sub-Committee on Biodiversity of PCSD)			■											■	
Preparation and submission of progress and final project reports to UNDP			■			■			■			■		■	■



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30 March 2001

MR. TERENCE JONES
Resident Representative
United Nations Development Programme
NEDA sa Makati Bldg.,
Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village
Makati City

UNDP MANILA	
FILE NO. <i>PH/UNDP/SC Prep</i>	
APR 03 2001	
ACTION	INFO
<i>CA</i>	<i>DNR/AD's</i>

Dear Mr. Jones:

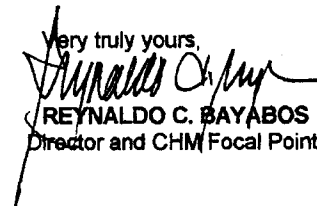
We are endorsing the project "An assessment of the Capacity Building Needs for Biodiversity Conservation and Management in the Philippines". The over-all objective of the said project is to assess the capacity building needs of the country to implement and update the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP) and to fulfill its commitments to the Convention on Biodiversity Conservation particularly in the preparation of the Philippine Second National Report to the CBD. The capacity assessment shall identify priorities and consensus building through participatory planning process.

The proposed project is an add on to the enabling activity project which the government received in 1998. The project shall be executed by the PAWB, as the focal agency for the CBD and the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) in the Philippines.

We hope that the proposed project merits your consideration and approval.

Thank you and best regards.

Very truly yours,


REYNALDO C. BAYABOS
Director and CHM Focal Point



Protect & conserve our forest to save our wildlife



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30 March 2001

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UNDP MANILA	
FILE NO. <i>DA/Issue Prop</i>	
APR 03 2001	
ACTION	INFO
<i>CA</i>	<i>DNA/ADS</i>

Dear Mr. Jones:

The Philippines is among the first of the developing countries to develop a national strategy and action plan for the conservation and sustainable utilization of the country's biological diversity (NBSAP). The NBSAP was developed and published in 1997. Considering, however, the dynamic interplay of the different sectors/actors within the environment, the 1997 assessment made on the status of the country's biodiversity along with the problems, threats and issues may no longer hold true at present. As such, there is a need to update the NBSAP to make it more responsive in addressing the problems confronting the country's biodiversity.

In view of the above, we would like to endorse the project "Assessment of Capacity Building Needs for Biodiversity Conservation and Management in the Philippines" to the UNDP for GEF grant under the enabling activity for biodiversity conservation. The proposed project is an add on to the enabling activity project which the GOP received in 1998 and aims to assess the capacity building needs of the country to implement and update the NBSAP and likewise enable the country to fulfill its commitment to the Convention of Biodiversity Conservation (CBD), i.e. preparation of the Philippine Second National Report to the CBD.

We hope that the proposed project merits your consideration and approval.

Thank you and best regards.

Very truly yours,


MARIO S. ROÑO
Undersecretary for International Commitment
and Local Government Affairs
GEF Operational Focal Point