

Annex A: Incremental Cost Analysis

Integrated Management of the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area (RS-X1016)

Annex A: Analysis of Incremental Costs

1. Project Rationale and Objectives

The Montecristo Massif is a mountainous area in the center of the territory known as the Trifinio Region where the borders of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras meet precisely at a peak of Punto Trifinio found at 2,418 meters above sea level (see Figure 1). This area is significant as it comprises the upper reaches of three of the most important watersheds in Central America (Lempa, Motagua and Ulúa) and due to the unique diversity of its biological resources.

Recognizing the biological value of the zone, in November 1987, the governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras, through the Trinational Commission for the Trifinio Plan (CTPT) signed a declaration for the protection of the ecosystems in the Trifinio Region.¹ In response to this declaration, the countries established protected areas in their respective territories of the Montecristo Massif: in El Salvador as the Montecristo National Park, through Executive Decree No. 53, published in the *Diario Oficial*, Volume 297, dated November 17, 1987; in Guatemala as the La Fraternidad Biosphere Reserve through Government Resolution 939-87 and reaffirmed under Executive Order 4-89; and in Honduras as the Montecristo-Trifinio Biosphere Massif Reserve and National Montecristo Park under Executive Order 87/87.² On October 27, 2005, during a regular meeting of the CTPT in San Salvador, the Vice Presidents of the three countries signed Resolution No. TR-4-2005, *Approval of the Integrated Management Plan of the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area (MPTA)*, and declaring the first trinational protected area in the Americas as formed by the three aforementioned protected areas, and directed the Trinational Executive Secretariat (SET) of the CTPT, to coordinate management activities in the MTPA as delegated by the three countries' protected areas management agencies.³

The MTPA holds large expanses of cloud forest, a type of vegetation found only at the tops of tropical and subtropical mountains. This habitat is also a resting site for migratory birds flying between the northern and southern hemispheres, meaning that these small fragments of forest have an important effect on biodiversity well beyond Central America, affecting ecosystems in both North and South America. Additionally, the area is located in an area interconnecting with a series of biological corridors previously identified in the three countries within the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor (MBC), and is recognized for its importance as habitat and as avenues of movement and migration for fauna in the Central American Isthmus.⁴

To date, approximately 1,440 species of flora and fauna have been registered in Montecristo, but scientific estimates suggest that there are upwards of 3,300. The importance of the area as a refuge for biodiversity is not due as much to the large number of species present there, but rather to the presence of the species endemic to the site and of globally threatened species. Research conducted to date indicates that there are at least 48 species endemic to the site and at least 50 globally threatened species. During the rapid ecological evaluation carried out under the GEF PDF-B grant for preparing the present project, 13 new plant species believed to be new to

¹ Declaration of the La Fraternidad International Biosphere Reserve.

² To date, Only El Salvador has established and maintained management infrastructure and staff for management in its portion of the area.

³ The SET serves as the CTPT's technical and administrative entity and is charged with coordinating and administering all projects and programs approved under the Trifinio Plan.

⁴ The biological corridors connect Montecristo to: the San Diego-La Barra Dry Forest in El Salvador; the Guija Lake Wetlands between El Salvador and Guatemala; the Suchitán, Quetzaltepeque, Ipala and Las Víboras Volcanoes, and the Atescatempa Lagoon in Guatemala; the Cerro Güisayote and Cerro Erapuca in Honduras; and the Cerro El Pital on the border of El Salvador and Honduras.

science, including five tree species (still pending scientific confirmation), suggest that Montecristo may have served as a place of refuge for biological diversity during the climatic fluctuations of the Pleistocene.⁵

The MTPA comprises the headwaters of the Upper Lempa River Basin and its tributaries provide water resources utilized by the populations in the MTPA and its buffer zone in all three countries (approximately 20,000 people) and the surrounding municipal centers of Esquipulas (Guatemala), Metapán (El Salvador), and Ocotepeque (Honduras) as a source of water for drinking, industrial uses, and irrigation. Downstream in El Salvador the flow of water is used for generating around 430 MW of hydroelectric power, supplying more than 50% of El Salvador's electricity demand. In the diagnostic study of the MTPA, it has been estimated that the 13,924 hectares of protected area surface produce an annual runoff volume of approximately 100 million cubic meters that reaches the creeks and tributaries of the Lempa River.⁶ In addition, the MTPA is the most important source of water to the Lempa River during the dry season from November to April. This river supplies water to satisfy an annual consumption in El Salvador alone of around 174 million cubic meters currently and by 2020 annual consumption is expected to reach 460 million cubic meters (Project MAG/PAES-CATIE, 2004). The Montecristo Massif likewise provides water for irrigating over 14,000 hectares, is used for coffee processing in the buffer zone of the MTPA and by hundreds of industries of various types downstream in Metapán and other industrial centers in El Salvador.

As the Montecristo Massif is located at the middle of a convergence of regional tourism (Esquipulas, Guatemala), commercial exchange (Ocotepeque, Honduras), and industrial activity and financial services (Metapán, El Salvador), it suffers the consequences of anthropogenic pressures of a growing population and an expanding agricultural frontier by people in search of land and natural resources for subsistence and economic purposes. This situation places at high risk the functioning of the ecosystems represented in the Montecristo Massif, the survival of its regionally and globally important biodiversity, and continuity in the provision of environmental services that serve the well-being of the populations in all three countries. The main threats to the MTPA are: i) the felling of natural forests for agricultural and livestock uses; ii) forest fires; iii) application of non-sustainable agricultural activities; iv) extraction from and structural degradation of the forests; v) indiscriminate and illegal hunting and capture of animals; and iv) improper disposal of domestic and industrial solid and liquid wastes.

Unless the necessary protection steps are taken in a participatory manner involving the different groups of stakeholders, and adequate management is established over the trinational area as an integrated management unit, these biological resources that are so vitally important to all three countries, Central America, and the world, will be lost.

The **objective** of this Project is to support the initial implementation of the Integrated Management Plan of the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area in the Trifinio Region of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras, through a trinational institutional framework operating in a participatory, integrated and effective manner as a means to conserve the biodiversity, natural processes and environmental services of local, regional and global importance provided by the MTPA and facilitate its integration into the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor.

The three governments propose to carry out joint actions necessary to contribute to the protection and conservation of the natural ecosystems and their biodiversity through the integrated management of these areas and to promote the valorization and sustainable use of the environmental goods and services produced by the ecosystems represented in the Montecristo Massif. As part of the preparation of this Project, the CTPTP, with the financial support of the IDB and a PDF grant from the GEF, and with the technical collaboration of the protected areas agencies in the three countries, recognized officially through their participation in the Trinational Committee for the Protected Areas of Trifinio (CTAP), the Integrated Management Plan (IMP) of the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area was drafted and adopted as guidance for the management and conservation actions within this new protected area. The current Project will provide support for carrying out a series of activities related to the consolidation of the MTPA and making operational the trinational institutional

⁵ SalvaNatura, October 2005.

⁶ NORPLAN/NRG/Fundación VIDA/PROBIOMA/SalvaNatura Consortium, August 2005.

framework necessary for on-ground implementation of the Integrated Management Plan. The overall global incremental impact of the Project is the conservation of the regionally and globally important biodiversity present in the MTPA and interconnected biological corridors, all components of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor.

b. Analysis of the Baseline Scenario (current situation without the proposed GEF Project)

The Trifinio Region is already the target of investments of the three countries promoting integrated sustainable development under the Trifinio Plan, some of which deal with some of the threats described above and serve to form the baseline of the Project (see Appendix H, List of Project Activities and Sources of Baseline Financing and Incremental Costs). Particularly noteworthy are three operations financed by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) directly related to the Treaty of the Trifinio Plan and coordinated through the Trifinational Commission for the Trifinio Plan. The *Trifinational Sustainable Development Program for the Upper Lempa River Basin* (PT-CARL) is in execution in the three countries under a regional IDB operation (CA-0034), financed through IDB loans in Guatemala (1331/OC-GU) and Honduras (1082/OC-HO) and complemented with funds of the *El Salvador Environmental Program/PAES* in (886/OC-ES). The overall objective of PT-CARL is to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants in the Upper Lempa Basin through activities that foster sustainable development aimed at breaking the cycle of poverty and degradation of natural resources. The specific objectives of the program are to: i) achieve sustainable management of renewable natural resources in the region; ii) reduce vulnerability to natural risks; iii) enhance productive activities and economic diversification; and iv) strengthen local governments and improve the organizational capacity of communities within a trinational framework of integration. PT-CARL contributes important training and technical assistance resources for activities related to agroforestry extension, agricultural diversification and strengthen the capacities of local organizations, including municipalities.

The PAES Project, in execution in El Salvador since 1998 under the coordination of the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock, has included actions oriented to agroforestry extension, soil conservation, and reforestation with poor hillside producers, disseminating practices that have dealt with some of the threats to the MTPA. PAES also financed the formulation of the Management Plan of El Salvador's Montecristo National Park, including a rapid ecological evaluation. The CTPT is also coordinating the project *Promotion of the Administration of Water as a Regional Public Good in the Upper Lempa River Basin in the Trifinio Region*, recently approved by the IDB under the Initiative for the Promotion of Regional Public Goods, and includes actions related to the characterization and monitoring of water resources in the Upper Lempa River Basin, and education and awareness programs directed at local governments and consumers of water (especially for domestic and irrigation uses) on the improved management of water resources.

The baseline also includes costs related to other thematically or geographically related projects and programs under implementation by national institutions of the three countries, including the following projects coordinated by the CTPT/SET under the authority of the Trifinio Plan Treaty. The *Binational Program for Transborder Development of El Salvador-Honduras*, financed by the European Union, includes a module for agro-ecotourism and small-scale enterprise development in the municipalities of Ocotepeque, Honduras, and of Chalatenango, El Salvador. The *Sustainable Development of the Environment and Water Resources in the Upper Lempa River Basin Project*, financed by the International Atomic Energy Agency and coordinated through the TCTP/TES, will carry out a series of investigations into the interrelationship between surface waters and groundwater recharge areas in the Upper Lempa River Basin. The *Sustainable Rural Development Project of Areas of Ecological Fragility in the Trifinio Region* (PRODERT), financed by the Central American Bank for Economic Integration (CABEI), is aimed at improving agricultural and livestock production, development of micro enterprises and small-scale industries, and small-scale community water and irrigation projects, complemented by a program for training and rural credit covering all three countries. Parts of this project have already been completed in El Salvador and Guatemala, but activities are just now beginning in Honduras and these contribute to the baseline in certain items under agricultural extension and producer training.

Additionally, there are contributions to the baseline from various projects in execution on the national level. In El Salvador, the World Bank project *Natural Resources Management through Conservation and Restoration*

Services (Ecoservices) is generating experiences as well as legal and regulatory instruments to facilitate the payment of environmental services. Through the *Land Administration Project* (LAP I), financed by the World Bank, geodetic and cadastral bases needed for land tenure regularization and registration in selected municipalities within the Trifinio Region have been generated. In Honduras, the *Honduran Land Administration Project*/PATH (World Bank) has established methodologies and geodetic bases to facilitate land tenure regularization and registration. Also in Honduras the IDB is financing the *Multiphase Program of Management of Natural Resources in Priority Basins*/MARENA (1077/SF-HO) that promotes adoption of technology packages applicable to the integration of the productive and socioeconomic aspects in rural areas within the framework of sustainability and interdependence of natural resources, applicable to similar activities proposed under the current Project in the MTPA buffer zone. The *Sustainable Forest Development Program*/ProBosque (IDB 1506/SF-HO) is setting up a program to monitor, in real time, changes in forest cover and the impact of fires and natural disasters in priority regions. Finally, in each of the three countries, *Social Investment Funds* (financed by the IDB and other donors) have contributed resources for the establishment of basic social infrastructure, including potable water and sanitation systems, community centers and secondary and tertiary roads in the Trifinio Region.

The activities under these projects and programs deal with certain threats to the integrity of the MTPA through promotion of conservationist practices in agricultural communities in the region, including the promotion of environmentally friendly productive activities (organic coffee, small-scale industry, and tourism development). Some of the structural causes of the threats will be addressed through actions aimed at strengthening the regulatory frameworks and improving the capacity of the local government to control and monitor natural resources, and carry out land use planning. These activities will also contribute to engendering participation and strengthening the organizational capabilities of the local governments, producer associations and community groups, including the National Stakeholders Committees (NSCs), recently-established in each national portion in the Trifinio Region as forums for formal participation in planning and execution of the PT-CARL Program.

Regardless of the investments represented in the baseline under these projects and programs most of the investments are being outside of the MTPA, although at times adjoining the buffer zone. PT-CARL, for example, views the MTPA as a strategic element in the planning and land use of the Trifinio Region, but does not include funding for activities directly related to the legal consolidation of the area, allocation of human resources and logistical support, nor other activities related to the protected areas management or the biodiversity contained therein. Activities of the El Salvador-Honduras Binational Program or PRODERT also currently exclude actions directly related to the conservation of ecosystems and these projects' outreach is limited to downstream areas the Lempa River Basin and the greater Trifinio Region. To date, protected areas management activities have only been carried out in the Salvadoran portion of the MTPA (Montecristo National Park) financed directly by the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources. No management activities are currently underway in the protected area sections of the MTPA declared in 1987 in Guatemala and Honduras. There is no monitoring or protection of biodiversity in these sections, except for a small as yet unfinished effort to delimit the boundary of the Montecristo National Park in Honduras. This situation poses important risks, not only to the protection of biodiversity, but also in terms of the degradation of watersheds and concomitant impacts of diminishing the quality and seasonal flows of water resources to downstream users, as well as an increase in the vulnerability of the area to natural disasters (earthquakes, floods resulting from tropical storms, landslides).

c. Analysis of the Alternative Scenario (with the GEF Project)

The GEF alternative proposes the development of actions that will complement activities currently promoted under the programs and projects indicated in the baseline scenario. The scope of activities represented in the baseline scenario will only reach the initial boundary of the buffer zone of the MTPA. Therefore, the resources of the GEF Project and its accompanying co-financing of these same projects and other sources will be oriented to protection of the biological resources found on the Montecristo Massif; the maintenance of the environmental services offered by the watersheds of the Upper Lempa River Basin; and the habilitation of the connections of the MTPA with the regional biological corridors identified as priorities by the three countries under the MBC framework—an effort representing a truly integrated program.

The GEF alternative will catalyze the initial actions proposed under the Integrated Management Plan, consolidate the physical boundaries of the MTPA in response to existing biological resources, facilitate the establishment of the trinational framework for effective on-ground management and administration of the area, and establish mechanisms for its financial sustainability. The Integrated Management Plan was approved by the protected areas agencies of each of the three countries as the foundation for guiding the management and conservation actions to be taken in their respective portions of the MTPA. The GEF alternative includes the four components described below, each comprising a series of activities that respond directly to objectives and targets set forth in the IMP.

Component 1: Legal, Territorial and Institutional Consolidation of the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area. The Project will contribute to formalizing the geographic boundaries and trinational legal framework required for the effective management of the MTPA through: i) land tenure regularization and delimitation of MTPA boundaries; ii) establishment and initiating operations of the Trinational Management Unit within the existing institutional framework of the Executive Secretariat of the Trinational Commission for the Trifinio Plan; iii) promotion of local stakeholder groups' participation in the management of the MTPA; iv) analysis and establishment of sustainable financing mechanisms for long-term implementation of the IMP; and v) promulgation of the required policy and legal instruments at the national and regional level.

Component 2: Integrated Management of the MTPA for the Conservation of Biodiversity. The Project will promote the implementation of management and protection actions in the MTPA, on both public as well as private lands, including such activities as: i) instituting functional land use plans and a zoning scheme; ii) establishment of protected area management and public use infrastructure; and iii) development of a program for management of reserves on private property.

Component 3: Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Environmental Management in the Buffer Zone of the MTPA and Biological Corridors. The Project will promote: i) the adoption of sustainable agricultural practices and forestry management by groups of producers and users of natural resources, including activities of vocational training for ecotourism, natural product processing and marketing, and cleaner production in agroindustry; ii) the establishment pilot activities to establish conservation easements in biological corridors interconnecting with the MTPA with the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor; and iii) an environmental education and awareness raising program directed to secondary school students, tourists and the general public relating to the importance of the MTPA, and integrating small community-level sanitation and environmental management projects.

Component 4: Monitoring and Research of the Ecological and Socioeconomic Conditions in the MTPA and its Buffer Zone, and Biological Corridors. The Project will support establishment of an integrated research and monitoring and evaluation system to improve knowledge of the natural resources and ecological processes and the impact of their anthropogenic uses, the Project's effectiveness in the management of the MTPA and in achieving the outcomes and outputs projected in the Project Logframe. Ecological and socioeconomic baselines and indicators will be used for monitoring changes over time related to the effectiveness of Project management and conservation activities. Furthermore, the Project will design and implement a research program to enhance knowledge of the local, regional and global importance of MTPA biodiversity, the true value of its environmental goods and services, and best practices for sustainable use of natural resources and restoration of ecological processes. All data generated under this component will be entered into a comprehensive information management system to assist in the implementation of all components and provide a foundation for periodic evaluations.⁷ Information products will be disseminated through the Project website, reports and press releases to interested parties at local, national, regional and international levels. With the implementation of the GEF alternative, the following incremental results are expected:

Incremental Result 1: Legal, territorial, and institutional consolidation of the MTPA. Advances will be made in formalizing land tenure and in establishing the geographic boundaries of the MTPA, and the trinational

⁷ The monitoring and evaluation program will include all necessary elements to respond to the GEF Tracking Tool for Strategic Priority 1, *Catalyzing the Sustainability of Protected Areas*, particularly as it related to monitoring the management effectiveness of the MTPA.

legal-institutional framework for the effective and participatory on-ground management of the MTPA will be consolidated. The MTPA will be the first and only trinational protected area in the Americas to be administered in an integrated manner by a single management unit, under a single management plan and budget. By the end-of-project, 50% of recurring management costs should be financed under the Projects sustainable financing plan.

Incremental Result 2: The integrated and effective management of the MTPA for the conservation of biodiversity. The Project will result in the implementation on the ground activities for management and protection in the entirety of the MTPA, including Guatemalan and Honduran sections, both on public as well as private lands, to assure the protection of biodiversity, maintain the functioning of the ecosystems and provision of environmental services or restore these in selected degraded areas, and facilitate access and public use of the MTPA for recreational and educational purposes.

Incremental Result 3: The sustainable use of natural resources and environmental management in the buffer zone of the MTPA and the interrelated biological corridors. Non-consumptive and sustainable agroforestry practices will be adopted by a representative number of groups of producers and users of the natural resources in the MTPA, its buffer zone and in three biological corridors. Thus the threats of anthropogenic origin to the MTPA and to its biodiversity and the functioning of its ecological associations, including its watersheds, will be reduced through the restoration and/or maintenance of the ecosystems and the protection of biodiversity, while improving the well-being of a representative proportion of the surrounding population. A complementary result will be achieved in terms of the establishment of on-ground examples of conservation easements in three priority biological corridors (one in each country) interconnecting the MTPA with the MBC. Increased environmental awareness among students and stakeholder groups in the Trifinio Region will contribute to increased support of management and protection of the MTPA and a gradual reduction in unsustainable anthropogenic pressures.

Incremental Result 4: Improved knowledge of the dynamic ecological conditions in the MTPA and its buffer zone, and their interrelationship with the natural resource users. Knowledge will be improved through the establishment of environmental and socioeconomic baselines and indicators to monitor changes in the biodiversity, composition, and functioning of the ecosystems over time, the value of environmental services, and the impact of anthropogenic activities in the use of natural resources, in response to management and protection activities. The understanding of these interrelationships will be enhanced through specific studies of priority topics in the MTPA and the three biological corridors to be established. Resulting information will be used for improved decision making by local, national and trinational authorities that affect sustainable development, while lessons learned and best practices will facilitate improved management and conservation of transboundary protected areas management efforts throughout the Americas and, potentially, on a global scale.

d. Analysis and Calculation of the Incremental Costs

A summary analysis of baseline and incremental costs is presented in Table 1. Table 2 presents the analysis of the costs (values) represented under the baseline scenario and the incremental costs necessary to achieve globally important benefits pursued under the GEF alternative. For each component and main activity, the domestic benefits are analyzed at the level of the three participating countries and the Trifinio Region, and then at the global level for both the baseline scenario and the GEF Alternative. The amounts indicated for the Baseline and the GEF Alternative corresponding to each component and activity are derived from budget calculations indicated in Appendix H.

Table 1: Summary of Baseline Costs and Incremental Costs under the GEF Alternative (US\$)

Component	Baseline	Incremental	Total
1. Legal, Territorial and Institutional Consolidation of the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area	960,000	2,927,000	3,887,000
2. Integrated Management of the MTPA for Conservation of Biodiversity	800,000	2,428,000	3,228,000
3. Sustainable Use of Natural Resources and Environmental Management in the Buffer Zone and Biological Corridors linked to the MTPA	3,985,000	2,610,000	6,595,000
4. Monitoring and Research of Ecological and Socioeconomic Conditions in the MTPA and its Buffer Zone	1,490,000	1,050,000	2,540,000
Other costs	--	75,000	75,000
Totals	7,235,000	9,090,000	16,325,000

The baseline costs have been estimated at US\$7,235,000. The GEF contribution to finance the incremental costs is US\$3,500,000. Sources from the Inter-American Development Bank, the three national governments, international development assistance institutions, and local stakeholders have been identified for co-financing incremental costs for a total of US\$5,590,000.⁸ Accordingly, the total value of the GEF Alternative to achieve the overall benefits pursued under the Biodiversity Focal Area, GEF Operational Program 4, Strategic Priority BD-1, is US\$16,325,000.

⁸ A breakdown of the co-financing contributions is given in the table entitled *Sources of Co-financing* in the GEF Executive Summary presented to the GEF Secretariat.

Table 2: Incremental Cost Matrix⁹

Component/ Activity	Category	Cost US\$	Domestic benefits	Global benefits
COMPONENT 1: LEGAL, TERRITORIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CONSOLIDATION OF THE MTPA	Baseline	960,000	The respective national legislation that establishes the legality of the protected areas in each of the three countries constitutes the legal foundation for the establishment of the MTPA; while the Treaty for the Execution of the Trifinio Plan and its Trinational Commission for the Trifinio Plan (CTPT) constitutes its trinational political, institutional and administrative base; and the Trinational Committee of Protected Areas in Trifinio (CTAP) serves as the advisory body in representation of the protected areas authorities in the three countries.	The existence of the these political, legal and institutional bases at the national and trinational levels provides the fundamental basis for establishment of the integrated management model for the MTPA, considered replicable to transboundary protected areas in the Americas and the rest of the world.
	GEF Alternative	3,887,000	Activities financed under this component will ensure that the objectives of conservation and protection are met in the three protected areas already declared in the Trifinio Region, but currently lacking attention in both Guatemala and Honduras, through a participatory institutional framework of co-management. These activities will also contribute to meeting the objectives as represented in the Central American integration policies of the three governments as expressed in the Trifinio Plan.	By formalizing the proposed expansion of the geographic boundaries to include all relevant elements of biological diversity of regional and global importance in the MTPA, and establishing the trinational legal, institutional and operational framework necessary for its effective management and protection, the component will contribute to implementation of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor.
	Incremental Total	2,927,000	86% of the incremental costs under this component will be covered by the GEF, the three Governments and the TCTP.	
	Incremental GEF	1,775,000		
Activity 1.a: Regularization of land ownership and the re-delimitation and demarcation of boundaries of the MTPA	Baseline	225,000	Geodetic bases, procedural guidelines and pre-cadastre in portions of the MTPA will be made available.	The demarcation of the boundaries (pre-expansion) of the MTPA portion in El Salvador are established, while in Honduras the process was initiated in 2005 but was not completed.
	GEF Alternative	470,000	A portion of public and private lands in the MTPA are mapped under a formal cadastre, regularized and legally registered, and most multiple claims and overlapping tenure conflicts will be resolved. Formalization of the tenure rights of the current owners. Geodetic re-delimitation and demarcation of the definitive boundaries of the MTPA in the three countries.	Legalization of the MTPA boundaries and the presence of technical management and support personnel will facilitate the control of inappropriate use of the natural resources (expansion of the agricultural frontier, deforestation, and resource depredation), the destruction of biodiversity and fragmentation of ecological habitats and functions.
	Incremental	245,000		

⁹ Appendix H presents details of the baseline and incremental costs by activity and component and by financing source.

Component/ Activity	Category	Cost US\$	Domestic benefits	Global benefits
Activity 1.b: Consolidation and implementation of the trinational legal and institutional framework for participatory management of the MTPA.	Baseline	585,000	The respective national legislation establishes the legality of the protected areas: Montecristo National Park in El Salvador; La Fraternalidad Biosphere Reserve in Guatemala; and Montecristo National Park in Honduras. El Salvador has maintained the only active management, protection and public use program.	The legal existence of the three protected areas serves as the foundation for the establishment of the MTPA (even though there has been no management in Guatemala and Honduras), thus enabling the initiation of integrated trinational management and protection of biodiversity in the area.
	GEF Alternative	2,967,000	The trinational management framework of the MTPA will be formalized and made operational. The CTPT, with the technical advice of the CTAP (national protected areas authorities of the three countries), are delegated authority to perform the activities of effective management of the MTPA. The Trinational Management Unit, under a co-management regimen, will have required capacity to implement actions of the Integrated Management Plan (IMP). Guatemala and Honduras will, for the first time, have on-ground protection and management activities. The framework will also facilitate the direct participation of civic groups and local governments in decisions that affect them.	The consolidation of protected areas management in all three national sections of the MTPA under the Integrated Management Plan, to be implemented by a single management/administrative entity, with a single integrated budget, will facilitate the conservation of transboundary and globally important biodiversity and natural resources through an innovative regulatory and management framework based on regional cooperation and integration.
	Incremental	2,382,000		
Activity 1.c: Promotion of sustainable financing for the management of the MTPA	Baseline	150,000	There are currently insufficient resources to enable basic management of each of the corresponding national protected areas (especially Guatemala and Honduras), and the three governments lack plans to ensure sustainable financing.	The lack of funding from the governments of Guatemala and Honduras to finance management of their respective protected areas continues to pose a structural threat to the conservation of the natural resources and the protection of the biodiversity in the MTPA.
	GEF Alternative	450,000	The development and application of strategies and mechanisms for sustainable financing will support the management of the protected areas in the three countries, will valorize environmental goods and services offered by the MTPA, and will distribute the responsibility of their payment among diverse natural resource users under a sustainable financing plan. The same scheme will reduce the financial burden on national governments currently facing difficult economic and financial situations.	The strategies and mechanisms to finance the recurrent costs of integrated management activities of the MTPA and to obtain compensation for the value of its environmental goods and services will serve as models for financing the protection of biodiversity in transboundary zones in other countries in the Americas and the world.
	Incremental	300,000		

Component/ Activity	Category	Cost US\$	Domestic benefits	Global benefits
COMPONENT 2: INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF THE MTPA FOR CONSERVATION OF BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY	Baseline	800,000	Only El Salvador has a management system, infrastructure and personnel in its Montecristo National Park, financed by MARN, while the La Fraternidad Biosphere Reserve in Guatemala and the Montecristo National Park in Honduras have had little if any government or international assistance for management.	Due to the lack of a harmonized and integrated management program among the three national protected areas, there is a high risk for ecosystem degradation and the loss of globally important biodiversity in the MTPA.
	GEF Alternative	3,228,000	The activities under this component respond to the management and conservation objectives stipulated in the Integrated Management Plan, applicable to the three national protected areas that comprise the MTPA, in facilitating implementation of management and protection activities on both public as private lands, assuring the protection of biodiversity, restoring the functioning of the ecosystems in degraded zones, maintaining the supply of environmental goods and services, and facilitating the access to and public use of the MTPA for recreational and educational purposes in each country.	The Project will bring about integrated effective integrated management, restoration and protection actions for conserving globally important biodiversity contained in the MTPA, under a single harmonized management strategy and integrated management plan agreed to by the national governments and their respective protected areas management agencies.
	Incremental Total	2,428,000	66% of the incremental costs of this component will be covered by the GEF and private land owners in the MTPA and its buffer zone	
	Incremental GEF	1,060,000		
Activity 2.a: Implementation of functional land-use plan and zoning scheme for MTPA	Baseline	550,000	Limited information products exist, particularly in the CTPT Trinational Executive Secretariat (SET) and Trinational Technical Unit, MARN, AFE/COHDEFOR, and SE-CONAP, which serve as a foundation for the preparation of land use and zoning plans for the MTPA.	The information available is insufficient for effective land use planning and zoning of the MTPA intended to guide adequate biodiversity conservation and the maintenance of environmental goods and services.
	GEF Alternative	801,000	Land use regulations and an internal zoning scheme will guide management actions according to ecological criteria, threats of resource degradation and carrying capacity considering the special circumstances of the MTPA: construction, operation and maintenance of the protected areas management/protection and public use infrastructure; management of public and tourist utilization; development of environmental, ecological, and cultural education and interpretation activities.	Land use regulations and an internal functional zoning scheme will facilitate the implementation of actions oriented towards reducing the illicit, consumptive and/or depredatory activities in the MTPA while balancing the use of the MTPA for recreational and educational purposes with protection of biological diversity.
	Incremental	251,000		
Activity 2.b: Establishment and maintenance of infrastructure for management, protection and public use in the MTPA	Baseline	250,000	In the Montecristo National Park of El Salvador, basic infrastructure exists but is in need of enhanced maintenance. Infrastructure is nonexistent in the Guatemalan and Honduran portions.	The lack of infrastructure in Honduras and Guatemala prohibits achievement of the management and protection objectives for the MTPA.

Component/ Activity	Category	Cost US\$	Domestic benefits	Global benefits
	GEF Alternative	1,620,000	The Project will establish the minimum infrastructure and equipment required in Guatemala and Honduras, fulfilling the objectives of the national protected areas authorities to facilitate effective actions for protection, monitoring and the promotion of controlled and sustainable public use of the MTPA.	The indicated infrastructure and equipment are necessary for the protection of the biodiversity of regional and global importance.
	Incremental	1,370,000		
Activity 2.c: Natural resources management and conservation on private lands in the MTPA	Baseline	0	There are no management plans or programs for private reserves in the MTPA	None
	GEF Alternative	807,000	The establishment of a trinational association of private reserves involving at least 3000 Ha (50%) of private lands of the MTPA in the activities linked to the objectives of the IMP responds to the objectives of the national protected areas authorities of the three countries to promote the establishment of private reserves as part of their respective national protected areas systems.	The incorporation of a critical mass of private lands representing at least 20% of the MTPA under objectives and goals of the IMP will contribute to the greater objectives of conserving and protecting globally important biodiversity and the incorporation of these lands as integral elements of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor.
	Incremental	807,000		
COMPONENT 3: SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN THE BUFFER ZONE OF THE MTPA AND BIOLOGICAL CORRIDORS	Baseline	3,985,000	Current programs of agricultural extension and diversification, forest management, and sustainable development (e.g. employment generation, tourism development), as well as environmental education operating in the Trifinio Region partly contribute to reduce the threats to the MTPA, but their geographic reach does not include the buffer zone of the MTPA and the linked biological corridors, in effect excluding the inhabitants who have the greatest influence on the condition of the natural resources and biodiversity represented therein.	The threats of unsustainable and destructive uses of natural resources remain unchanged in the buffer zone of the MTPA and the linked biological corridors, resulting in the loss of the forest cover, fragmentation of ecological associations and continued anthropogenic threats to the MTPA, further contributing to the degradation of environmental services and globally important biodiversity.
	GEF Alternative	6,595,000	The Project will work with projects and programs already operating in the Trifinio Region to geographically reorient a portion of their activities of extension and capacity-building in sustainable agriculture, forest practices, sustainable tourism development and environmental education (including small scale basic sanitation works) to the buffer zone of the MTPA and its biological corridors as a means to promote non-consumptive uses of the natural resources and reduce the pressures on the MTPA.	Linking the actions of extension and capacity-building to the objectives of the MTPA Integrated Management Plan will reduce the threats of destructive activities and engender revegetation and restoration of ecological functions in the buffer zone and biological corridors; in turn reducing the anthropogenic threats to the MTPA, its biodiversity, and the integrity of its ecological associations and environmental services, including its watersheds.
	Incremental Total	2,610,000	55% of the incremental costs of this component will be covered by the Trinational Sustainable Development Program for the Upper Lempa River Basin and the Binational Program for Transboundary Development El Salvador-Honduras.	
	Incremental GEF	225,000		

Component/ Activity	Category	Cost US\$	Domestic benefits	Global benefits
Activity 3.a: Promotion of environmentally sustainable productive activities and environmental management in the buffer zone of the MTPA	Baseline	2,635,000	The projects and programs operating in the Trifinio Region and Upper Lempa river Basin have developed a series of technological packages to diversify agricultural practices, forest management and the production of handicrafts while sustaining the natural resources base, including capacity-building for vocational reorientation to the tourism subsector and promotion of environmental management and cleaner production in agroindustry (e.g. coffee), but these activities are currently concentrated mainly in areas further downstream in the Lempa River Basin and in larger municipal centers.	The objectives of the programs and projects operating in the Trifinio Region and the Upper Lempa River Basin give very little consideration to the protection of natural resources in the MTPA and are not oriented towards the generation of global benefits.
	GEF Alternative	4,125,000	Stakeholders enrolled in the Project related activities in the buffer zone of the MTPA will adopt conservationist and less consumptive productive uses of natural resources that will contribute to their well-being including: reforestation, forest fire prevention, soil and water conservation, production of crafts and ecologically certifiable coffee. The population residing in the buffer zone will be involved in vocational reorientation programs (e.g. tourism), and current technical and financial support of certain programs operating in the upper Lempa River Basin will be redirected to cleaner production methods in the processing of coffee, thereby reducing contamination of tributaries normally used for the discharge of contaminated water.	The current practices of ecologically unsustainable utilization of natural resources in the buffer zone of the MTPA will be reoriented towards strategies that contribute to the revegetation and restoration of the ecological functions in the degraded areas and thus contribute to the integrity of biodiversity around the MTPA, while reductions in the sedimentation from hillside farms and the use of highly toxic agrichemicals, and application of cleaner agro-processing techniques will improve water quality in streams and the biota that depend on them. Also, linking the MTPA to regional tourism circuits will contribute to enhance the value of its environmental goods and services and to support management of the MTPA.
	Incremental	1,490,000		
Activity 3.b: On-ground establishment of biological corridors interconnecting with the MTPA	Baseline	0	The national protected areas authorities of the three countries are partners in the efforts to construct the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor and have identified the biological corridors interconnecting with the MTPA as priorities in their plans, but they have not initiated actions for their establishment on the ground.	The identification of the biological corridors by the protected areas management authorities of the three countries and by the Central American Commission on Environment and Development (CCAD) serves as a justification for further work to link them with the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor.
	GEF Alternative	355,000	Activities will result in the establishment of biological corridors already identified as priority by the governing agencies of protected areas of the three countries and initial actions of establishing in situ pilot restoration actions for establishment of conservation easements.	Activities will contribute to the implementation of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor by consolidating the biological corridors that connect the MTPA with the other protected areas
	Incremental	355,000		

Component/ Activity	Category	Cost US\$	Domestic benefits	Global benefits
Activity 3.c: Development of environmental awareness within the local population and resource users	Baseline	1,350,000	There are some sporadic and uncoordinated activities of raising awareness and environmental education at the national and regional levels, but not related to the MTPA.	None
	GEF Alternative	2,155,000	Activities will result in improving the public's awareness of the MTPA and its importance in providing environmental goods and services (water resources, natural disaster mitigation, recreation, employment generation) and contribute to changing attitudes of local and national decision makers and the local and regional residents in support of natural resources conservation and maintenance of ecological functions. By integrating small scale sanitation works into the strategy, the actions will also contribute to improved public health.	Imparting an understanding about the attributes and importance of the MTPA is essential to enhance the population's awareness regarding the necessity to conserve the ecological associations and regionally and globally important biodiversity.
	Incremental	765,000		
COMPONENTE 4: MONITORING AND RESEARCH OF ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN THE MTPA AND ITS BUFFER ZONE AND ECLOGICAL CORRIDORS	Baseline	1,490,000	There is currently no coordinated research and monitoring efforts, neither of the ecological conditions nor the impacts of anthropogenic interventions, in the MTPA or the Trifinio Region.	Albeit limited, the current information base will serve partly to establish a monitoring baseline but is insufficient to assess the real or global value of ecological associations and environmental services in the MTPA.
	GEF Alternative	2,540,000	Activities will contribute to the enhancement of knowledge concerning the condition of the natural resources and the value of environmental goods and services, and the impact of the anthropogenic activities in the MTPA, its buffer zone and interconnected biological corridors, which will in turn serve as basis for improving sustainable development decisions at the local, national and regional level.	Activities will improve knowledge of the current condition and dynamics of biodiversity, especially in terms of determining the level of its global importance, the composition and function of ecosystems, and the value of the environmental services in the MTPA, including its importance as a component of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor.
	Incremental Total	1,050,000	The projects and programs financed by the IDB and other international development assistance institutions will cover 53% of the incremental costs, while the GEF will cover 35%.	
	Incremental GEF	365,000		
Activity 4a: Implementation of an integrated monitoring and evaluation system	Baseline	650,000	Previous studies and initial data provided by the governmental agencies and projects and programs in the Trifinio Region are used partly for the establishment of the baseline for the monitoring and evaluation of the Project's impact.	The existing information was not conceived to contribute to the purposes of monitoring and protecting of the biodiversity of global importance.

Component/ Activity	Category	Cost US\$	Domestic benefits	Global benefits
	GEF Alternative	1,050,000	The establishment of the baseline and indicators for monitoring ecological and socioeconomic conditions will contribute to determining the success of the three governments' objectives and of the Trifinio Plan in promoting sustainable development and conservation of natural resources in the Trifinio Region, and to improved protected areas management.	The Project monitoring and evaluation system will be conceptually designed to monitor the dynamics and interactions of ecological and socioeconomic processes, and evaluate the achievement of the Project's objectives of reducing the threats and contributing to the protection of biodiversity of global importance in the MTPA.
	Incremental	400,000		
Activity 4b: Development and implementation of a complementary research program to support management of the MTPA	Baseline	290,000	Research in the area has been sporadic and uncoordinated, and mainly concentrated in Montecristo National Park in El Salvador.	The results of the previously executed investigations indicate that the MTPA holds biodiversity of high endemism of potentially great importance at the global level, but simultaneously indicates the necessity of more comprehensive studies.
	GEF Alternative	610,000	The research program will contribute to improving knowledge of the biodiversity in the MTPA, determining the best uses of the natural resources, and calculating the economic value of environmental services to serve decisions concerning sustainable development in all three countries.	The research program will contribute to improving knowledge of biodiversity in the MPTA and its global importance, including the verification of the area as a refuge for biological diversity during the climatic fluctuations of the Pleistocene.
	Incremental	320,000		
Activity 4c: Consolidation and implementation of an information management system	Baseline	550,000	Current statistical and georeferenced (GIS) databases in information systems of governmental agencies, universities, NGOs, and projects and programs will serve as a foundation for the Project's management information system.	Statistical and georeferenced databases, although incomplete, will contribute to the efforts of monitoring the dynamics of biodiversity and habitats represented in the MTPA.
	GEF Alternative	880,000	The information management system for the Project will be used to support the execution of all planning and analytical activities related to implementation of the Integrated Management Plan and evaluation of progress toward achievement of the conservation objectives of the three countries, and the replication of local and national best practices.	The Project's information management system will be used to analyze the dynamics of biodiversity and the reduction of threats to the ecological integrity of the MTPA and its biological corridors. Resulting data and analyses will be made accessible to interested groups at the trinational, regional and international level in support of the construction and conservation objectives of the MBC, and the replication of the innovations and best practices. Information interchanges will be promoted with projects in other transboundary protected areas throughout the world.
	Incremental	330,000		

Component/ Activity	Category	Cost US\$	Domestic benefits	Global benefits
OTHER COSTS	Baseline	-	NA	NA
	GEF Alternative	75,000	NA	NA
	Incremental Total	75,000	Includes costs for financial audits and contingencies	
	Incremental GEF	75,000		
Totals	Baseline	7,235,000	Includes the costs of activities carried out by governmental institutions, the CTPT/SET, projects and programs active in the geographic area of the Trifinio Region and/or thematic aspects with relevance to the Project, and the local actors and their organizations.	
	GEF Alternative	16,25,000	Includes GEF funding, the three national governments' specific contributions and the CTPT, the IDB and other international development assistance institutions with active projects and programs in the Trifinio Region and/or thematic aspects of relevance to the Project, and the local actors and their stakeholder organizations in addition to the baseline. It does not include the contributions of US\$250.000 of the IDB Norwegian Consultancy Fund nor the national contributions valued at US\$30.000 applied to the Project's design phase (co-financing of the PDF-B).	
	Incremental Total	9,090,000		
	Incremental GEF	3,500,000	Does not include US\$150.000 from the GEF PDF Block B.	

Annex B: Logical Framework Matrix

ANNEX B: LOGICAL FRAMEWORK

INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF THE MONTECRISTO TRINATIONAL PROTECTED AREA

NARRATIVE SUMMARY	VERIFIABLE OUTCOME INDICATORS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
<p>GOAL: Contribute to the protection and conservation of globally important biodiversity, the natural processes and the environmental services provided by the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area (MTPA) in the Trifinio Region of Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador, to benefit the local population and contribute to the implementation of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor.</p>	<p><u>Three years after the end of the Project:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The area of natural forest cover in the MTPA is the same or has expanded compared to the level at the end of Year 1 (XX ha. baseline established during Year 1)¹. b. The sedimentation level in selected streams of the MTPA is maintained or reduced compared to the level at the end of Year 1 (XX TSS, baseline established during year 1). c. The abundance of benthic species as a bio-indicator for water quality in the creeks in the outer limits of the MTPA is the same or higher compared to the level at the end of Year 1 (baseline established during Year 1)². d. The rate of gastrointestinal diseases has been reduced by 20 % in the beneficiary population (defined as those receiving support for basic services from the Project) compared to the level at the beginning of the Project (XX%, baseline established at the beginning of the Project). e. The number of economically active persons living in the project area with an income from environmentally sustainable productive activities (eg. ecotourism, sustainable agriculture) has increased 10 % compared to the baseline established before the end of Year 1. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Satellite images and verifications in the field (annually). b. Measurement of sedimentation levels at strategic points in the Lempa River (in collaboration with Mississippi State University, and the IDB funded Regional Public Goods project executed by CTPT/SET) (quarterly). c. Periodic evaluations of the abundance of benthic organisms against the established baseline (bi-annually). d. Health centre and hospital registries in the region and punctual studies and surveys (annually) e. Project registries (for example PT-CARL) and socioeconomic indicators against the baseline established during Year 1. (annually) 	<p>Integration and sustainable development of the Trifinio Region continues to be priorities for the governments of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras.</p> <p>The co-financing from other projects materializes in a timely manner.</p>

¹ The most recent data are from 2002, so an updated baseline would be established during the first year. MTPA data from 2002 (according to Sherppa cited in the IMP): cloud forest (6647 Ha), deciduous forest (82 Ha), evergreen forest (587 Ha) and mixed forest (4,238 Ha).

² In the Rapid Ecological Assessment carried out in 2005, sampling was carried out in 4 sites in Guatemala and Honduras respectively (including streams located in the outer margins of the MTPA) and the total observed abundance of aquatic snails was 271. The sampling level was not statistically sufficiently large to consider it a solid baseline, but they will serve as a reference.

NARRATIVE SUMMARY	VERIFIABLE OUTCOME INDICATORS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
<p>PURPOSE: Support the initial implementation of the Integrated Management Plan (IMP) of the MTPA under a trinational institutional framework operating in a participatory, integrated and efficient manner.</p>	<p><u>By the end of the project:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 100 % of the basic MTPA management activities are performed in a trinational and integrated manner through operational plans implemented by the Trinational Management Unit of the MTPA with the necessary local, national and regional participation (compared with 0% at the beginning of the Project). b. Numbers of reported fires and illegal actions (illegal hunting, extraction of wood etc) reduced (baseline established during Year 1). c. At least three biological corridors interconnecting with the MTPA have been established (XX Ha vs. 0 at the beginning of the Project). d. The management decision-making is based on scientific information systematized in the Project's information system (compared to initial ad-hoc use of information). e. 50% of the annual recurrent operational costs of the MTPA are met with resources of the Special Trust Fund compared to 0% at the beginning of the Project. f. 50% of the private land area in the MTPA is managed in line with the objectives of the Integrated Management Plan (compared to 0% at the beginning of the project). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Annual Plans of Trinational Management Unit and minutes of meetings of National Stakeholder Committees (NSC), the trinational stakeholders forum, CTAP and Trinational Management Unit (annually) b. Park guard logs and national police reports. (quarterly) c. Biological corridor updates in project reports (annually) d. Research reports. (annually) e. Trinational Management Unit budget and financial statements of the fund (annually) f. Agreements, management plans and evaluation reports. (annual assessment) 	<p>The governments of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras approve the necessary legal and/or operational instruments for the implementation of the IMP.</p> <p>The assets and resources of the Montecristo National Park (El Salvador) are successfully integrated into the trinational initiative. Arrangements for payment of environmental services are formalized.</p> <p>Private landowners are willing to collaborate in conservation activities.</p>

NARRATIVE SUMMARY	VERIFIABLE OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 1: LEGAL, TERRITORIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CONSOLIDATION OF THE MTPA			
Activity 1.a: <i>Regularization of land ownership and the redelimitation and demarcation of boundaries of the MTPA</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Public and private land ownership in the MTPA has been mapped by cadastre and regularized by the end of the Project. b. Geodetic redelimitation and physical demarcation of the definitive boundaries del MTPA and its buffer zone carried out by the end of the Project. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Georeferencial cadastre and land registry. b. Verification in the field of demarcation boundary markers. 	Pertinent authorities approve the new boundaries and agreements reached with the private property owners.
Activity 1.b: <i>Consolidation and implementation of the trinational legal and institutional framework for participatory management of the MTPA.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A trinational institutional framework for the MTPA has been accorded by the appropriate national authorities and the CTPT/SET by the end of Year 1. b. The co-management contract for the Trinational Management Unit is initiated during the year 1 and is fully operational by the end of the Project. c. The Trinacional Committee of Protected Areas (CTAP) has been strengthened as a permanent advisory entity for the CTPT for technical supervision of implementation of the IMP by the end of the Project. d. Regional agreements and national legal instruments supporting the IMP approved and in force by the end of the project. e. Issues related to the integrated management of the MTPA inserted in the agenda of the NSC by the end of Year 1. f. The TPF for the MTPA established with meetings at least on an annual basis by the end of Year 1. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Executed bilateral agreements between MARN, SE-CONAP, AFE-COHDEFOR and the CPTP/SET establishing the transfer of responsibilities for the management of the MTPA. b. Co-management contract between CTPT/SET and a third party to carry out the functions of the Trinational Management Unit. c. Statutes, annual agenda, meeting minutes, evaluation and monitoring reports of the MTPA. d. Regional agreements and national legal instruments e. Agendas and meeting minutes including lists of participants. f. Statutes, agendas and meeting minutes including lists of participants. 	<p>The governments of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras approve the instruments (legal and operational) required for the implementation of the IMP.</p> <p>Existence of third parties interested and qualified to perform co-management (under a contract with CTPT/SET).</p>
Activity 1.c: <i>Promotion of sustainable financing of the management of the MTPA.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Special Trust Fund designed and established by the end of Year 2. b. Instruments and mechanisms analyzed, selected and put in place for the payment of environmental services provided by the MTPA in order to finance the recurrent operating costs of the integrated management activities, and the contributions deposited in the Special Trust Fund by the end of Year 3. c. A forum for program coordination related to the MTPA organized by the Trinational Management Unit by the end of Year 1. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Financial sustainability plan, the statutes of the Fund and agreements for the creation and management of the Fund by SET under the authority of CTPT. b. Economic valuation studies, instruments and mechanisms for the payment of environmental services, such as agreements with CEL and industrial enterprises consuming, for example, the water from the MTPA. c. Meeting minutes, technical cooperation and co-financing agreements with other programs. 	<p>The governments of El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras promulgate the legal instruments required for the creation and administration of the Fund.</p> <p>The local resource user associations, businesses and public utilities are willing to participate in schemes for the payment of environmental services.</p>

NARRATIVE SUMMARY	VERIFIABLE OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 2: INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF THE MTPA FOR THE CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY			
Activity 2.a: <i>Consolidation of functional land-use plan and zoning scheme for MTPA.</i>	a. Functional land-use plan prepared and implemented to regulate internal zoning and prescribed uses within the MTPA, including related regulations and guidelines by the end of Year 1.	a. Functional land-use plan approved and in implementation.	Appropriate national authorities support approval of the technical and operational instruments (as required by respective national legislation).
Activity 2.b: <i>Establishment and maintenance of the management, protection and visitor/public use infrastructure in the MTPA.</i>	a. Minimum infrastructure established and in use by the Trinational Management Unit and the protected area visitors by the end of the Project.	a. Existence of visitor center and information infrastructure, administration offices, control towers, cabins, potable water and sanitation systems, trails, and exhibitions verified in the field. Registries of visitor and public use of the infrastructure.	
Activity 2.c: <i>Natural resources management and conservation in private lands in the MTPA</i>	a. Natural resource management and conservation program on private lands in execution with the participation of landowners of at least 50% of the private lands in the MTPA by the end of the Project. b. A trinational private landowners association established by end of Year 1.	a. Agreements with private land owners and individual plans for conservation and management of natural resources.	The private landowners are interested in contributing to the conservation of the natural resources of the MTPA.
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 3: SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN BUFFER ZONE AND BIOLOGICAL CORRIDORS			
Activity 3.a: <i>Promotion of environmentally sustainable agriculture, agro-forestry, agro-industry and tourism in the MTPA and its buffer zone.</i>	a. By the end of the Project, at least 200 farmers involved in project supported activities in sustainable agricultural production, conservation of land and water, agro-forestry and forestry management in the MTPA and its buffer zone. b. By the end of the Project, a total of 30 coffee producers in the MTPA and its buffer zone involved in project supported environmentally friendly shaded coffee production program including sustainable production certification and the establishment and marketing of a trinational coffee brand. c. By the end of the Project, at least three coffee industries in the buffer zone applying cleaner production practices. d. By the end of the Project, at least 250 persons from	a. Registries of producers participating in project extension activities promoting environmentally sound production. Activity reports including adoption of improved practices. b. Participant registries and evaluations of real changes in the agroforestry practices and the use of natural resources. c. Project report and technological changes verified in the field d. Registries of trained persons and enterprises in tourism services provision. Accounts and registries of annual income sources of individuals	Collaboration and execution of activities of the PT-CARL program and the El Salvador-Honduras Binational Development Program (European Union).

NARRATIVE SUMMARY	VERIFIABLE OUTPUT INDICATORS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
	local communities and/or enterprises trained in alternative vacations and services related tourism and handicrafts sectors.	and enterprises.	
Activity 3.b: <i>Constitution of biological corridors interconnected with the MTPA</i>	a. Pilot projects of conservation easements and/or ecological restoration have been established in at least three (one in each country) biological corridors within the buffer zone and the influence area of the MTPA as interconnections with the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor by the end of Year 3.	a. Diagnostics and reports of ecological restoration demonstration pilot projects. Agreements with municipalities and private landowners regarding establishment and protection of the corridors.	Municipalities and private landowners are interested in participating.
Activity 3.c: <i>Promotion of environmental awareness among the local population in the MTPA and its buffer zone.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. An environmental awareness promotion program operating in the MTPA and its buffer zone by the end of Year 1 disseminating educational and promotional information about the management and protection of the area, involving schools and local ecological advocacy groups. b. At least 500 families have received environmental education in the MTPA and its buffer zone by the end of the Project. c. At least 1 youth group (friends of the MTPA) established by the end of the Project. d. By the end of the Project, at least 6 communities in the buffer zone of the MTPA benefiting from small scale sanitation projects (eg. solid waste management and latrines), as an integrated element of the environmental education activities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Program reports, pamphlets and other information material, secondary school level curriculum in use, and agreements with local educational districts. b. Registries of families reached with environmental educational activities. c. Activity reports of the “friends of the MTPA” d. Records of sanitation projects 	<p>Collaboration in environmental education outreach with the PT-CARL program and the Project of Promotion of the Administration of Water as a Public Good (BID/CTPT).</p> <p>Youth Groups interested in environmental advocacy.</p>

NARRATIVE SUMMARY	VERIFIABLE OUTPUT INDICATORS	SOURCE OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTIONS
SPECIFIC OBJECTIVE 4: MONITORING AND INVESTIGATION OF ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN THE MTPA AND ITS BUFFER ZONE			
Activity 4a: <i>Monitoring and evaluation system.</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Within six months after contracting the entity to carry out the functions of the Trinational Management Unit, a monitoring system is in place and a baseline established to monitor project progress and impacts based on the indicators established in the logical framework. b. By the end of Year 1 the Trinational Management Unit and other actors carrying out periodic sampling and measurement of the indicators. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Publication of baseline and on-site inspection of the system. b. Monitoring reports c. Report on establishment of monitoring system d. Initial monitoring reports 	
Activity 4b: <i>Research program to support the management of the MTPA</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. A research program for the MTPA designed by end of year 3 and in implementation by end of Project and at least three trinational research projects have been carried out. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Research plan published b. Research reports 	Scientists and other research programs attracted to the MTPA and co-financing priority research (in complement of research funded by the Project).
Activity 4c: <i>Project information system</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Project information management system established by the end of Year 1 and being used to support the execution of all the activities, the planning and evaluation of the project and the replication of best practices. b. Information about the Project made available and being used by the public at the local, national, trinational and international levels (through websites, bulletins etc) by the end of Year 1. d. By end of the Project information exchange activities carried with at least two other transboundary protected area projects in the region and/or the world. e. By the end of the Project, at least one regional workshop carried out on transboundary protected area management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Information management system established with data collection and analysis protocols and software. b. Webpage providing access to information about activities and advances of the Project integrated with existing system in the CTPT/SET and registry of number of visitors to website. c. Reports on exchanges with other projects. d. Report from workshop 	Other projects interested in collaboration.

**Annex C: Scientific and Technical Appraisal Panel
(STAP) Review**

Annex C: STAP Review

**For Inter-American Development Bank
Scientific and Technical Appraisal Panel (Stap) Review
Consultant: Enrique H. Bucher**

Project:

**INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF THE MONTECRISTO
TRINATIONAL PROTECTED AREA (RS-X1016)**

Key issues

Scientific and technical soundness of the project, including socio-economic and institutional aspects.

The project is scientifically technically sound. The selected approach and procedures followed to develop the project are sound and according to the state of the art in the matter. Of particular importance is the emphasis given to a balanced integration of initiatives in complementary areas such as biological conservation, land-use planning, legal framework, social and economic development, and public health. No doubt, the challenge of integrating management in an area shared by three countries is unusual and demanding, with limited previous experience available for guidance.

Main technical challenges are those related with achieving sound mechanisms for a) integration of common criteria, policies, and procedures in the management of the area, and b) integration of the significant number of legislative procedures, trends in the area of rural development and land use, and international projects at the development and/or planning stage in the area. In my opinion, these bottlenecks are correctly identified and integrated in the project.

Identification of the global environmental benefits and/or drawbacks of the project

The project has important environmental benefits. In first place, it contributes to the preservation of biodiversity in high priority ecoregions, as well as the strengthening of the Central American forest corridor. Secondly, it may provide a significant support to the removal of several specific causes of biodiversity loss that threaten the region, including deforestation, over hunting, soil degradation, and pollution. In third place, the project contributes in a substantial way to the sectorial integration and sustainable use of the Montecristo Protected Area, a particularly challenging task given the international nature of the area and the several ongoing projects and actions.

Regional context

The project is very relevant to the region, taking into consideration the biological importance of the ecoregions to be protected in the MTPA, as well as the socioeconomic context of the area. The project may be of key importance for the relieving of the rather extreme social condition of the local population, reflected in poverty, lack of elementary education, and poor health and welfare services. More specifically, the project may help to implement a gradual transition from the present predominance of isolated and sometimes poorly integrated projects into a new phase characterized by more effective integration and coordination.

Replicability of the project (added value for the global environment beyond the project itself) and focus on replicable demonstration activities

If successful, the project may also lead to the implementation of new initiatives around the world. Of great significance is its potential contribution (in terms of leadership as well as scientific and technical experience) to similar situations in Central and South America, particularly along the Andes in Central South America (frontier areas between Argentina, Bolivia, Ecuador, Colombia, and Brazil).

Experience gained in land-use management in buffer could be also applicable to other protected areas of Latin America, taking into consideration that this is the most critical and conflictive management problem usually found in parks and reserves of the region.

Sustainability of the project (incl. financial sustainability)

The project has an intrinsic component of sustainability. The need for preserving biodiversity and undisturbed natural areas will continue as deforestation increases, attracting more efforts and support at both the national and international level. Once established and properly managed, a protected area has an added value in terms of its long-term sustainability. Moreover, the international recognition of the area (Biosphere Reserve, etc.) will also facilitate international support.

From the national perspective, the available documentation provided suggests that sustainability of the project depends, to a large extent, on the appropriation of the integrated management concept by governments of the three countries sharing the MTPA. Although a formal commitment does exist, it remains to be seen if the political decision reaches the implementation and financial level. There is no doubt that this project has the potential for promoting the necessary commitment and involvement. If the proposed goals are achieved, the project will raise local awareness and visibility, as well as a new vision of international cooperation, breaking isolation and creating new human and political links between each national administration. In other words, the political and institutional momentum provided by the project may be critical in convincing local authorities of the significance of supporting the MTPA.

The possibility for the area to become sustainable through generation its own revenue (through environmental services, for example) is a concrete one, but feasible only in the medium to long-term. In first place, it is required that the idea of giving a value to environmental services be accepted by the local society and then incorporated in the legislation. In second place, applicability of the concept in areas where poverty is

rampant would require a previous re-structuring and improvement of the region's social and economic situation.

On the other hand, tourism development has a good prospect in terms of contributing to the economic sustainability of the protected area.

How the project addresses the GEF Biodiversity Focal Area Strategic Priorities

The project fits adequately with the Focal Area Strategic priorities of in situ conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity in mountain ecosystems. The project includes complementarity as an important risk-reducing step. The absorptive capacity of agencies and NGOs to implement the GEF activity has been well integrated in the project.

There are two factors of uncertainty that cannot be avoided by the project, however. In first place, the area to be under protection is relatively small (13,000 Ha under strict protection) and therefore may be insufficient to hold its present biodiversity if the surrounding areas become deforested or altered, particularly in the case of the low-elevation biomes. I would like to recommend that, if possible, every effort should be made to increase the size of the intangible area.

Secondly, the high level of poverty and illiteracy of the local population may prevent, at least temporarily, appropriation of the conservation initiative by the local society. In this sense, the effort for implementing income alternatives as well as environmental education is a key component of the project.

Secondary issues

Linkages to other focal areas

The project has clear linkages with other GEF focal areas, mainly land degradation (land-use problems) and international waters (watershed management). It is also related, to a lesser degree, with climate change (carbon sequestration in forests) and persistent organic pollutants (urban and agricultural wastes in the MTPA buffer area)

Linkages to other programs and actions plans at regional or sub-regional levels

The project has linkages with several past and present programs and action plans at the regional and sub-regional level. In fact, this project results from previous work that produced the first version of the Management Plan for the MTPA, as well as several other projects in the area of rural development, pollution control, etc.

One of the added values of this project is precisely its potential for achieving an integration and coordination of ongoing and future initiatives within the integrated land use perspective, under an international scenario. From the background information provided, it appears that existence of several rather uncoordinated projects has somewhat decreased potential benefits that a well-integrated framework could have provided.

Accordingly, I would like to suggest that the project should be expanded to show in more detail how ongoing activities and projects in the area will be integrated with the present project. It would also be advisable to show how the available experience and information resulting from “lessons learned” previously are incorporated into the present project.

Other beneficial or damaging environmental effects;

The project has the potential for beneficial effects in the area of water management and rural development not only in the MTPA but in the surrounding areas.

Degree of involvement of stakeholders in the project (incl. private sector);

Involvement of the stakeholders is important and has been correctly assessed and considered in the proposal.

I would like to suggest expansion of the project’s section related with management of private lands, particularly in connection with the payment to about 2,000 ha of private property for ecological services during 4 years. It seems to me that a payment not derived from approved legislation that lasts only for 4 years may not be achieve a change of perception by the civil society. Instead, its short duration may lead to deception in the end by property owners who became involved in the initiative.

Capacity-building aspects and sharing of lessons-learned;

Capacity building is adequately included in the project, covering several actors in the conservation, tourism, and rural development areas.

However, the area of capacity building and training of the MTPA staff should be expanded, in my opinion. From the background information provided (“Integrated Management Plan for the MTPA”) it appears that park wardens are not receiving special training, despite the fact that lack of control and law enforcement is indicated as one of the main threats for the area. Moreover, salaries proposed (about US\$ 250 month) suggest that these positions will not be attractive to well trained personnel. Additionally, no specific training in fire control and management appears to be considered, despite of the crucial significance of wild fires in the area.

The importance of developing a well-integrated training program for park wardens, as well as the possibility of achieving personal development through a professional career within the system, cannot be underestimated. One of the key weaknesses of protected areas in most of Latin America is lack of well trained, well paid park wardens, despite being the backbone component of any protected area.

Innovativeness of the project

The project is innovative from two points of view. First, because of its international nature. Second, by the effort devoted to integration of existing efforts as well as the emphasis given to land use planning and sustainable development.

Recommendations

Besides the specific suggestions inserted in the previous sections, I would like to add the following recommendations.

- Taking into consideration that this project aims at the implementation phase of the MTPA management plan, which is based on previous studies and assessments (particularly the MTPA produced in 2005), it appears that the proportion of the budget dedicated to basic studies and consultancies is larger than what would be expected if compared with funds allocated to MTPA infrastructure. Total MTPA infrastructure investments reach only 14% of the total budget of US \$8,824,750. Moreover, it is not clear if the ATM budget includes equipment required for fire control and law enforcement. For example, spotting aircrafts are of primary importance in mountain regions. I suggest that these questions should be adequately addressed in the proposal.
- Total budget for the design and implementation of a monitoring system under GEF alternative is US\$ 400,000; of which US\$ 150,000 correspond to GEF funding. This figure appears at first sight somewhat high, taking in consideration the rather small area of the APTM and the indicators to be considered (as listed in the MTPA management plan and the “Marco Logico” document). I recommend that the proposal should justify in greater detail the proposed budget. Moreover, I strongly suggest inviting local universities, and not only consulting firms, to become involved in the long-term monitoring of the MTPA. This alternative would provide, besides high quality technical support, another way of broadening interaction with the local civil society, as well as promotion of local capacity building at the academic level.

Conclusions and recommendations

In my opinion, the project is relevant, technically and scientifically sound, and deals with a very important issue regarding biodiversity conservation in Central America. The integrative approach, particularly regarding the international scenario and the multiplicity of national and international initiatives being developed in the region, fills a clear and urgent need. If successful, the [project will have a key contribution to the ultimate goal of achieving conservation and sustainable development in the region.

If my comments and recommendations are taken into consideration, I fully support this proposal.

Enrique H. Bucher

Córdoba, November 18, 2005

2. How the project addresses the GEF Biodiversity Focal Area Strategic Priorities

STAP Comment 3: There are two factors of uncertainty that cannot be avoided by the project, however. In first place, the area to be under protection is relatively small (13,000 ha under strict protection) and therefore may be insufficient to hold its present biodiversity if the surrounding areas become deforested or altered, particularly in the case of the low-elevation biomes. I would like to recommend that, if possible, every effort should be made to increase the size of the intangible area.

ExA Response: During the diagnostic study and preparation of the project design, it became apparent that the surface area under absolute protection vis-à-vis the original laws declaring each of the respective national protected areas on the Montecristo Massif totaled only 6,000 hectares, excluding important portions of cloud forest, pre-cloud transitional forest, mixed pine-oak and pine forest associations. The Project will support the Integrated Management Plan proposal to expand the original boundaries to integrate all potentially viable ecological fragments into the MTPA, raising the total surface area to 13,923 hectares. This was determined to be the maximum area where existing and/or recoverable biodiversity and ecological associations could be effectively incorporated into the trinational protected area. With complementary sustainable natural resources management actions proposed in the buffer zone and with pilot activities for on-ground establishment of biological corridors under Project Component 3, it is hoped that the biological value of these areas will be increased, effectively expanding the influence area of positive ecological impacts of the Project beyond the boundaries of the MTPA.

STAP Comment 4: Secondly, the high level of poverty and illiteracy of the local population may prevent, at least temporarily, appropriation of the conservation initiative by the local society. In this sense, the effort for implementing income alternatives as well as environmental education is a key component of the project.

ExA Response: The Project proposes to catalyze activities of projects and programs currently managed under the Trifinio Plan into an integrated response for disseminating knowledge concerning the importance of the MTPA and need to sustain environmental goods and services it offers to residents of the buffer zone and to the population living downstream. See also response to STAP Comment 2 above.

Secondary Issues

Linkages to other programs and actions plans at regional or sub-regional levels

STAP Comment 5: One of the added values of this project is precisely its potential for achieving an integration and coordination of ongoing and future initiatives within the integrated land use perspective, under an international scenario. From the background information provided, it appears that existence of several rather uncoordinated projects has somewhat decreased potential benefits that a well-integrated framework could have provided.

Accordingly, I would like to suggest that the project should be expanded to show in more detail how ongoing activities and projects in the area will be integrated with the present project. It would also be advisable to show how the available experience and information resulting from “lessons learned” previously are incorporated into the present project.

Annex C1: Responses by the Executing Agency to the STAP Review

INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF THE MONTECRISTO TRINATIONAL PROTECTED AREA (RS-X1016)

Annex C1: Responses to the Scientific and Technical Appraisal Panel (STAP) Review

Primary Issues

1. Sustainability of the project (incl. financial sustainability)

STAP Comment 1: The possibility for the area to become sustainable through generation its own revenue (through environmental services, for example) is a concrete one, but feasible only in the medium to long-term. In the first place, it is required that the idea of giving a value to environmental services be accepted by the local society and then incorporated in the legislation.

ExA Response: While still incipient, various mechanisms for payment of environmental services at the local, municipal and national levels have been put into place in each of the participating countries and national governments are beginning to include such payments into new legislation and regulations; for instance, the proposed new Water Resources Law in El Salvador requires a payment (*canon*) for use or extraction of water for consumptive or productive purposes. The CTPT/SET is also in the process of negotiating an agreement with the Lempa Executive Commission (CEL) for directing a percentage of the revenues from hydroelectric power generation for natural resources management efforts in the upper watersheds. During project preparation, these precedents have been considered and a series of activities have been included in the Project to facilitate the development and implementation of strategies and instruments to generate the revenues required for meeting the recurring costs of management and protection activities in the MTPA and its buffer zone. The Project will facilitate the development of a definitive Sustainable Financing Plan and the gradual implantation of the most promising mechanisms and instruments identified during Project preparation, among others: i) entrance fees paid by visitors to the MTPA; ii) permits for research and scientific inventories; iii) concessions and/or fees charged to tourism companies/operators, tourist transport services, restaurants, hostels and hotels, and vendors; iv) payment of tariffs for use/extraction of water for industrial use; v) payment of fees for use/extraction of water for generating hydroelectric power; and vi) contributions or special municipal taxes of the municipalities for the protection and reduction of vulnerability to natural disasters. This is further described in paragraphs 5.5 and 5.8 of the Project Document.

STAP Comment 2: In second place, applicability of the concept in areas where poverty is rampant would require a previous re-structuring and improvement of the region's social and economic situation. On the other hand, tourism development has a good prospect in terms of contributing to the economic sustainability of the protected area.

ExA Response: The Trifinio Plan is intended as a long-term structural response of all three governments for reducing poverty through a series of sustainable development actions. The MTPA Integrated Management Plan and related Project activities are conceptualized to contribute to breaking the cycle of poverty and degradation of the natural resources base, and engender sustainable use of resources and employment generation in the tourism subsector linking the MTPA to established tourism circuits in the Trifinio Region.

ExA Response: Text has been added to the Project Document to explain how the Project design reflects lessons learned from other projects executed in the Trifinio Region, including PT-CARL. Also, text has been added indicating that the Trinational Management Unit, responsible for overall implementation of the IMP and the current Project in particular, will coordinate the preparation of annual work plans with representatives of proposed co-financing partners, including those projects and programs active in the Trifinio Region.

Degree of involvement of stakeholders in the project (incl. private sector)

STAP Comment 6: Involvement of the stakeholders is important and has been correctly assessed and considered in the proposal. I would like to suggest expansion of the project's section related with management of private lands, particularly in connection with the payment to about 2,000 ha involved of private property for ecological services during 4 years [*Note: the Project target for total area to be included under protective management on private lands in the MTPA has been elevated to 3,000 ha*]. It seems to me that a payment not derived from approved legislation that lasts only for 4 years may not be achieve a change of perception by the civil society. Instead, its short duration may lead to deception in the end by property owners who became involved in the initiative.

ExA Response: The Project does not intend at this time to make cash payments directly to private land owners who join in the program for conservation of natural resources in the MTPA. The Project includes a series of incentives to promote the establishment of private reserves and sustainable management of land and resources in the MTPA, mostly in terms of data sharing and technical assistance, linked to *voluntary* efforts of land owners to conserve and/or restore natural forest cover. In terms of payments or other incentives (tax reductions, etc.), the Project proposes to convene workshops with land owners as an integral part of the methodology to be used during the study for producing the definitive MTPA Sustainable Financing Plan. Activities for institutionalizing those instruments with the greatest potential for generating revenue from users/consumers of environmental goods and services and/or incentives to land owners contributing to maintaining such goods and services will be initiated beginning in the third and fourth years of the Project. Text has been added to the Project Document to clarify these STAP concerns.

Capacity-building aspects and sharing of lessons-learned

STAP Comment 7: Capacity building is adequately included in the project, covering several actors in the conservation, tourism, and rural development areas. However, the area of capacity building and training of the MTPA staff should be expanded, in my opinion. From the background information provided (“Integrated Management Plan for the MTPA”) it appears that park wardens are not receiving special training, despite the fact that lack of control and law enforcement is indicated as one of the main threats for the area. Moreover, salaries proposed (about US\$ 250 month) suggest that these positions will not be attractive to well trained personnel. Additionally, no specific training in fire control and management appears to be considered, despite of the crucial significance of wild fires in the area.

The importance of developing a well-integrated training program for park wardens, as well as the possibility of achieving personal development through a professional career within the system, cannot be underestimated. One of the key weaknesses of protected areas in most of Latin America is lack of well trained, well paid park wardens, despite being the backbone component of any protected area.

ExA Response: The comment has been well-taken and text has been added to the Project Document to clarify these concerns. Park wardens will receive training in such areas as MTPA ecology, fire control, visitor/tourist communication, and conflicts resolution; and a tiered job classification system for warden staff will be encouraged under the terms of contracting the entity to assume the duties of the Trinational Management Unit to reward employee excellence with increased benefits for higher levels of responsibility. Regarding the detection of illegal activities in the MTPA and procedures to deal with perpetrators, the three countries have their respective legal framework for regulating illicit activities dealing with natural forest felling, invasions and squatting of land, natural resources depredation, vandalism and environmental contamination. Hence, in each national portion of the MTPA, the corresponding legal framework would apply. The Trinational Management Unit, under the authority of the Trinational Commission of the Trifinio Plan, will establish a collaborative framework with local and national authorities in each country to respond to the problems of unlawful activities in the MTPA.

Recommendations

STAP Comment 8: Taking into consideration that this project aims at the implementation phase of the MTPA management plan, which is based on previous studies and assessments (particularly the MTPA produced in 2005), it appears that the proportion of the budget dedicated to basic studies and consultancies is larger than what would be expected if compared with funds allocated to MTPA infrastructure. Total MTPA infrastructure investments reach only 14% of the total budget of US\$8,824,750. Moreover, it is not clear if the MTPA budget includes equipment required for fire control and law enforcement. For example, spotting aircrafts are of primary importance in mountain regions. I suggest that these questions should be adequately addressed in the proposal.

ExA Response: The large majority of funding indicated for consulting is actually to be consolidated into the contract of the management entity that will fulfill the role of the Trinational Management Unit, and is actually directed at protected areas management activities. At the same time, during the ExA's final analyses and revisions to the Project Document, it was determined that funding needs under the GEF grant were underestimated for investments in MTPA infrastructure and equipment, park ranger and support personnel requirements, proposed interventions related to on-ground establishment of three biological corridors interconnecting the MTPA, and the objectives of the proposed research program. Consequently, adjustments have been made to the Project Document and related budgets, and the level of funding to be requested of the GEF has been raised above that indicated in the draft evaluated by the STAP Reviewer, to a total of US\$3,500,000.

STAP Comment 9: Total budget for the design and implementation of a monitoring system under GEF alternative is US\$400,000; of which US\$150,000 correspond to GEF funding. This figure appears at first sight somewhat high, taking in consideration the rather small area of the MTPA and the indicators to be considered (as listed in the MTPA management plan and the "Marco Logico" document). I recommend that the proposal should justify in greater detail the proposed budget. Moreover, I strongly suggest inviting local universities, and not only consulting firms, to become involved in the long-term monitoring of the MTPA. This alternative would provide, besides high quality technical support, another way of broadening interaction with the local civil society, as well as promotion of local capacity building at the academic level.

ExA Response: The investments in monitoring and research should be considered integrally and with the understanding that the MTPA, especially in the Guatemalan and Honduran portions, should be treated as a new protected area, as well as the first effort in the Americas to manage conservation

of such an area within a truly integrated institutional and administrative framework. Beyond the needs to improve the knowledge base concerning the characterization of biodiversity in the MTPA, as well as valorizing the environmental goods and services it offers (as a basis for proposing sustainable financing strategies), monitoring and evaluation are key elements of the Project design and very necessary to document lessons learned and best practices. Furthermore, the Project seeks to catalyze co-financing for monitoring and research for mutual benefit among all projects and programs in the Trifinio Region, efforts of which are currently sporadic and uncoordinated. Text in the Project Document has been added or modified to reflect these STAP concerns, including encouragement of universities of each of the three countries and/or their consortia, to participate in monitoring and research activities to be financed under the Project.

**Annex C2 Comments from GEFSEC and
Response from Executing Agency**

INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF THE MONTECRISTO TRINATIONAL PROTECTED AREA (RS-X1016)

Annex C2: GEF Secretariat Review and Responses from the IDB

GEFSEC Comment 1: Please revise the section on “Contribution to key indicators of business plan” on the cover page by relating to the indicators identified under the GEF Biodiversity Program for GEF3, i.e. coverage, number of PAs, etc.

IDB Response 1: The section has been replaced with the following text: “*The Project will contribute to the following targets and performance indicators established for the Biodiversity Focal Area (BD-1) for GEF3: (a) the protected areas systems in Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras will be strengthened by incorporating a functional mechanism for trinational protected area management; (b) the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area (MTPA), representing approximately 14,000 hectares across the three countries, will be consolidated, and (c) approximately 15% of the Project funding will be directed towards capacity building involving local stakeholders.*”

GEFSEC Comment 2: It is understood that the total project budget is US\$9.49 million, including GEF contribution of US\$3.5 million. However, the project activities described are only worth US\$4.5 million as noted in page 22-23 of the project document. The project document should cover and describe the entire project activities. Please clarify and revise.

IDB Response 2: This section has been revised. The Project Document covers and describes the entire project activities. For presentation requirements of the IDB, the funding from the GEF and local counterpart is presented in a separate table (Table III-1), whilst the co-financing is presented in another table (Table III-2). For a complete presentation of project activities and source of funding please also refer to Annex H of the GEF Executive Summary.

GEFSEC Comment 3: The logframe does not clarify the project outcomes and outputs. Although the project purpose, activities and indicators are well described, clear outcomes are key to understand the project design and determine success of the project. Please revise and clarify.

IDB Response 3: The indicators in the logframe have been revised. The indicators at the goal and purpose level measure outcomes, whilst the indicators at the component level measure outputs. These changes have also been reflected in the GEF Executive Summary.

GEFSEC Comment 4: Please further clarify that the proposed research program is indeed an action research program that is specifically derived from the management needs of the protected area and will be practically applied.

IDB Response 4: The proposed research program has always been perceived as an action research program that will be specifically derived from the management needs of the protected area and will be practically applied. This has been further clarified in the text (paragraphs 2.11 and 2.23).

GEFSEC Comment 5: Please also reflect and describe specific lessons learned from other similar transboundary protected areas management in the region to ensure project success.

IDB Response 5: A paragraph reflecting the analysis of lessons learned from other transboundary protected areas in Central America (in particular PILA between Costa Rica and Panama) and in Africa has been included text (see paragraph 1.48).

GEFSEC Comment 6: Sustainable financing of the trinational protected area is the most challenging issue for this project and we would like to see a strong plan for this purpose. The proposed financial sustainability plan is generally well thought and tries to generate its own resources and become self sufficient. How feasible is this plan? Any additional information or study conducted to determine the feasibility of this plan? What level of support and commitment could be expected and planned from each country government to support the initiatives after the project to cover the recurrent costs?

IDB Response 6: Additional text has been added to the Project Document (see paragraphs 5.5-5.10) providing more detail concerning the proposed strategy for sustainable financing of recurrent costs of protected areas management, charging payments for environmental services offered by the MTPA, as well as precedents already established in each of the three countries and at the regional level (Trifinio Plan) that support the feasibility of the strategy. Furthermore, additional text has been provided on recent developments on this matter, including that the agreement between the CTPT/SET with the Executive Lempa Commission (CEL), the authority that regulates operation of the four hydroelectric generating facilities on the Lempa River and deemed one of the principal beneficiaries of the benefits of effective management and protection of the forest cover in the MTPA, will be signed shortly to provide annual payments for watershed protection on the Montecristo Massif and the local governments (in particular Esquipulas in Guatemala) has expressed to the CTPT/SET the intention to increase their contribution to the initiative.

GEFSEC Comment 7: Considering the unique nature of the project, i.e. managing a trinational PA by a single integrated management unit, we expect a stronger plan for lesson sharing and replication within the project. Please elaborate them in project activities with specific budget.

IDB Response 7: Paragraphs 2.24 and 2.25 have been revised to include more specific activities related to dissemination of lessons learned and networking with regional and international transboundary protected areas workgroups. Specific dissemination budget lines have been included in the Project Budget (see Component 1, Activity b.6. and Component 4, Activity c.3. in Annex H), which will cover, among others, the organization of a regional workshop on transboundary protected areas, the participation of project staff in regional forums on protected areas, the establishment of a website and a periodic bulletin to be widely distributed in the region. Staff exchanges with other projects will also be financed. Efforts will also be made to participate and contribute to regional and global efforts on transboundary protected areas, such as the CCAD/IUCN Transboundary Protected Areas Initiative and the Global Transboundary Protected Areas Network hosted by the World Commission on Protected Areas/IUCN.

GEFSEC Comment 8: Please consider gender issues in the stakeholder involvement plan, particularly for the natural resource management and awareness raising components.

IDB Response 8: The document has been revised and specific consideration to gender issues has been introduced in the following paragraphs: 2.17 (specific consideration to involve both women and men in sustainable productive activities), 2.19 (special consideration to gender issues in environmental awareness raising activities), 2.22 (disaggregating socio-economic indicators by gender), 5.12 (incorporation of gender consideration in project selection criteria in Operating Regulations) and 5.14 (encourage participation of both women and men in the National Stakeholder Committees).

GEFSEC Comment 9: It is considered important to have continued regular contact and coordination with these projects, not only for project preparation but also during the project implementation. Please clarify mechanism to ensure such coordination.

IDB Response 9: As described in paragraphs 4.2 and 5.13 coordination with other projects will be ensured in several ways. First of all, the projects implemented under the CTPT/SET will naturally be coordinated as all the project annual workplans will be reviewed by this office and thus synergies will be promoted amongst

projects. Furthermore, the CTPT/SET will organize an annual meeting amongst all the related projects to ensure coordination and promote collaboration.

GEFSEC Comment 10: It is expected that strong supervision, support and coordination mechanisms are developed not only in El Salvador, but also in Guatemala and Honduras where support has been traditionally weak for the management of the PA.

IDB Response 10: Strong supervision, support and coordination mechanisms will be in place in the three countries. The Project will be supervised directly by the IDB Country Office in El Salvador (as that is where Trinational Executive Secretariat is located), but the other two country offices will also be closely involved. The coordination at the political level is largely facilitated by the existing structure of the Trinational Commission for the Trifinio Plan, which has a National Director linked to the Vice-Presidents' Offices in each of the three countries. At the technical level, the existence of the Trinational Protected Areas Committee ensures formal and active participation from the protected areas authorities in the three countries.

**Annex D: CTPT Resolution 04-2005 signed by the
Vice-Presidents of Guatemala, Honduras and El
Salvador in favor of the Integrated Management Plan
of the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area (MTPA)**



Resolución N° TR -4-2005
**APROBACIÓN DEL PLAN DE MANEJO
INTEGRADO DEL AREA PROTEGIDA
TRINACIONAL DE MONTECRISTO.**

**LA COMISION TRINACIONAL DEL PLAN TRIFINIO
EL SALVADOR – GUATEMALA – HONDURAS**

CONSIDERANDO

Que el 21 de noviembre de 1987, los Vicepresidentes de El Salvador y Guatemala y el Designado a la Presidencia de Honduras, a nombre de sus respectivos gobiernos, firmaron la “Declaración de la Reserva Internacional de la Biosfera La Fraternidad” para conservar y desarrollar los recursos naturales, protegiendo al mismo tiempo los patrimonios nacionales, tanto históricos como culturales;

Que las Repúblicas de El Salvador, Guatemala y Honduras suscribieron el 31 de octubre de 1997 el Tratado para la Ejecución del Plan Trifinio, que en su Capítulo I, OBJETO DEL TRATADO, Artículo 2, dice: “El Plan Trifinio comprende todos los programas, subprogramas, proyectos y acciones coordinados de forma trinacional a ejecutarse en la Región del Trifinio”; y que en su Capítulo II, REGION DEL TRIFINIO, Artículo 3, dice: “Las partes reconocen la Región del Trifinio, como un área de especial interés para los tres países, que representa una unidad ecológica indivisible en la que solo una acción conjunta y coordinada podrá dar solución satisfactoria a los problemas de las poblaciones y al manejo sostenible de los recursos naturales”;

Que en el espíritu del Tratado y en el marco de la Declaratoria de la Reserva Internacional de la Biosfera La Fraternidad, los países han venido haciendo esfuerzos y gestiones conjuntas para contar con un Plan de Manejo Integrado de la Reserva, y que en este esfuerzo, las Repúblicas de El Salvador, Guatemala y Honduras han reiterado en anteriores resoluciones y declaraciones conjuntas de esta Comisión Trinacional, así como en el Convenio para la Conservación de la Biodiversidad y Protección de Áreas Silvestres Prioritarias en América Central y en la Alianza Centroamericana para el Desarrollo Sostenible, ALIDES, su compromiso y voluntad de que dicha Reserva sea manejada en forma integrada por los tres países;



Resolución N° TR-4-2005
Página No. 2

Que en el marco de esta iniciativa, la Comisión Trinacional, con base en lo establecido en los Artículos 3, 4, 5 y 7 que le confiere el Tratado, el 27 de febrero de 2003, resolvió: (i) Reiterar que el área protegida del Macizo de Montecristo, constituyente de la Reserva Internacional de la Biosfera La Fraternidad, es prioritaria para los gobiernos de El Salvador, Guatemala y Honduras; y (ii) Reconocer al Comité Trinacional de Áreas Protegidas de la Región del Trifinio conformado por dos representantes (por cada país) de las instituciones rectoras de las áreas protegidas de los países partes, como un ente asesor de la Comisión Trinacional del Plan Trifinio para contribuir al proceso de planificación, manejo y administración de las Áreas Protegidas de la Región del Trifinio en forma integral, bajo el contexto del fortalecimiento y desarrollo de la Reserva Internacional de la Biosfera La Fraternidad;

Que en seguimiento al mandato de la Comisión Trinacional del Plan Trifinio, la Secretaría Ejecutiva Trinacional y el Comité Trinacional de Areas Protegidas, desde septiembre de 2004, han venido trabajando en forma conjunta en el desarrollo del Plan de Manejo Integrado, con el objeto de que dicho Plan guíe la acción coordinada y conjunta de las áreas protegidas que actualmente comprenden la Reserva Internacional de la Biosfera La Fraternidad: el Parque Nacional Montecristo en El Salvador, la Reserva de Biosfera Trifinio en Guatemala y el Parque Nacional Montecristo-Trifinio en Honduras, a cuyo conjunto se acordó llamar Área Protegida Trinacional Montecristo (APTM);

Que en agosto de 2005, con el apoyo sostenido de las instituciones rectoras de las áreas protegidas de los tres países integrados en el Comité Trinacional de Areas Protegidas, se concluyó la elaboración del Plan de Manejo Integrado del APTM y sus estudios de base, que todos los documentos relacionados han sido consensuados en el seno del Comité Trinacional de Areas Protegidas; que el Plan de Manejo Integrado es un instrumento dinámico que contiene pautas y lineamientos para el manejo integrado del APTM con un horizonte de 15 años y que en su aplicación tomará en consideración la normativa vigente en cada uno de los tres países.

Que con base en estudios adicionales realizados sobre los aspectos legales e institucionales para la puesta en marcha del Plan de Manejo Integrado del APTM se ha visto la necesidad de contar con una Unidad de Manejo Trinacional adscrita a la Secretaría Ejecutiva Trinacional y de que se suscriban Convenios de Co-Administración entre dicha Secretaría y las entidades rectoras nacionales para ejecutar y dar seguimiento a todas las iniciativas y acciones relacionadas con el manejo integrado del APTM.



Resolución N° TR-4-2005
Página No. 3

Que con base en los referidos estudios para la puesta en marcha del Plan de Manejo Integrado del APTM se ha concluido que es posible iniciar labores en el APTM bajo un enfoque trinacional, con las categorías de manejo que en cada país se aplican actualmente a cada una de las áreas protegidas, con los límites externos del APTM actuales y la zonificación interna existente en cada área protegida;

Que el Ministerio del Ambiente y Recursos Naturales de El Salvador, el Consejo Nacional de Areas Protegidas de Guatemala y la Administración Forestal del Estado, de la Corporación Hondureña de Desarrollo Forestal han emitido los correspondientes dictámenes favorables para la aprobación del Plan de Manejo Integrado del Area Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo.

POR TANTO

Con base a lo establecido en los Artículos 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 y 9 del Tratado entre las Repúblicas de El Salvador, Guatemala y Honduras para la Ejecución del Plan Trifinio:

RESUELVE

- PRIMERO:** Ratificar lo acordado por la Secretaría Ejecutiva Trinacional y el Comité Trinacional de Areas Protegidas al referirse al conjunto de áreas protegidas como "Area Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo" o APTM.
- SEGUNDO:** Aprobar que el Plan de Manejo Integrado del APTM sea el lineamiento principal para el manejo de dicha área, cuyo objetivo será la realización de acciones de carácter trinacional que promuevan el mantenimiento, la viabilidad y la funcionalidad de los ecosistemas del APTM y el sostenimiento de la biodiversidad contenida en estos para el aprovechamiento y generación de bienes y servicios ambientales.
- TERCERO:** Crear la Unidad de Manejo Trinacional del APTM, adscrita a la Secretaría Ejecutiva Trinacional. La Unidad de Manejo Trinacional tendrá a su cargo ejecutar y dar seguimiento a todas las iniciativas y acciones relacionadas con el manejo integrado del APTM en el marco de las legislaciones y normas vigentes en cada país y de conformidad a lo aprobado por el Comité Trinacional de Areas Protegidas, así como la coordinación con otros proyectos y programas de carácter nacional y trinacional en la Región del Trifinio.



Resolución N° TR-4-2005
Página No. 4

CUARTO: Instruir a la Secretaría Ejecutiva Trinacional llevar a cabo las acciones necesarias para implementar el Plan de Manejo Integrado del APTM en el marco de las actuales categorías de manejo de cada área protegida, con los límites externos y la zonificación interna actuales, sin perjuicio de que los países decidan modificar alguna de estas variables con base científica y de acuerdo a los propuesto en el Plan de Manejo Integrado.

QUINTO: Ratificar al Comité Trinacional de Areas Protegidas como ente asesor permanente de la Comisión Trinacional del Plan Trifinio y ampliar sus funciones, para lo cual solicitan a las instituciones rectoras de las áreas protegidas de los tres países que sus representantes ante dicho Comité sean facultados con la debida delegación para que en el seno de este foro lleven a cabo las siguientes funciones:

- a) Ser el órgano de más alto nivel en la dirección técnica del APTM, en representación de sus respectivas instituciones y en el marco del Plan de Manejo Integrado del APTM;
- b) Opinar y recomendar sobre acciones, proyectos o actividades que se realicen dentro del APTM y que tengan un impacto sobre la estabilidad de los ecosistemas naturales protegidos, y abogar por las cooperaciones técnicas y financieras para la sostenibilidad de las actividades de manejo integral;
- c) Someter a la consideración de las instituciones rectoras la aprobación de los programas y proyectos, planes operativos y presupuestos relacionados con el manejo integrado del APTM;
- d) Aprobar los informes de progreso y las evaluaciones periódicas;
- e) Evaluar, controlar y supervisar regularmente la ejecución de las acciones derivadas del Plan de Manejo Integrado para hacer más eficaz y eficiente los procesos de planificación, manejo y administración del APTM;
- f) Consensuar los procedimientos y pautas a seguir para el manejo de los recursos naturales y recursos construidos dentro del APTM, enmarcados en el Plan de Manejo Integrado y en las respectivas legislaciones de los tres países;
- g) Realizar las fiscalizaciones técnicas periódicas vinculadas a las inversiones de recursos de cooperación técnica y financiera de carácter trinacional;
- h) Asesorar a la Comisión Trinacional del Plan Trifinio en los asuntos relativos a la gobernanza y manejo del área y de otras áreas que dentro de la Región Trifinio sean susceptibles de manejarse y administrarse como Áreas Protegidas.



Resolución N° TR-4-2005
Página No. 5

- SEXTO:** Aprobar que la Secretaría Ejecutiva Trinacional gestione y reciba recursos de cooperación para promover el manejo integrado del APTM y efectúe la administración técnica y financiera de los mismos.
- SEPTIMO:** Solicitar a los Puntos Focales del GEF de El Salvador, Guatemala y Honduras, comunicar a dicho organismo la anuencia por parte de nuestros gobiernos para la implementación del Plan de Manejo Integrado del APTM.

Emitida en la ciudad de San Salvador, República de El Salvador, el día veintisiete de octubre del año dos mil cinco.

ANA VILMA ALBANEZ DE ESCOBAR
VICEPRESIDENTA DE LA
REPUBLICA DE EL SALVADOR

EDUARDO STEIN BARILLAS
VICEPRESIDENTE DE LA
REPUBLICA DE GUATEMALA

ARMIDA VILLELA DE LOPEZ CONTRERAS
DESIGNADA A LA PRESIDENCIA
DE LA REPUBLICA DE HONDURAS

Annex E: Endorsement Letters from GEF Operational Focal Points

Licda. Mercedes Hort
Secretaria Plan
TRIFINIO.
2264-3621.
URGENTE!



MINISTERIO DE MEDIO AMBIENTE
Y RECURSOS NATURALES

MARN/GANPCB/033/05

San Salvador 14 de noviembre de 2005.

Asunto: Apoyo a proyecto regional.

Señor
Phillipe Dewez
Representante
Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo
Presente

Post-it* Fax Note	7671	Date	15/11/05	# of pages	1
To	Henrik Franklin	From	Mercedes Hort		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #			
Fax #		Fax #			

Estimado señor Dewez:

Este Ministerio ha estado apoyando el proceso de formulación del Plan de Manejo Integral para el Área Natural Trinacional Trifinio durante un periodo de 18 meses, a través de la participación en el Comité Técnico de Áreas Protegidas nombrado para tal fin. El Proyecto responde a los objetivos de la integración regional centroamericana y a la visión innovadora de manejo de las áreas protegidas integradas en corredores biológicos, como parte de la iniciativa del Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano. En el caso de El Salvador, esta Secretaría de Estado coordinará la ejecución del Proyecto con dos iniciativas aprobadas por el Fondo Global Ambiental, GEF: "Consolidación de las Áreas Naturales y Administración de Tierras" y "Proyecto Nacional de Gestión Ambiental-ECOSERVICIOS", a ser ejecutados en el año 2006, 2007 respectivamente.

El pasado 27 de octubre, en un acto oficial, nuestra Vicepresidenta de la República, licenciada Ana Vilma de Escobar, se reunió con su homólogo de Guatemala y la Primera Designada de la Presidencia de Honduras en el marco de la Comisión Trinacional de Montecristo y sus respectivas Secretarías, con el fin de firmar una resolución avalando la implementación de dicho Plan de Manejo Integral, como una alternativa para la conservación de la biodiversidad en ecosistemas transfronterizos y los bienes y servicios que de ellos se derivan.

Por lo anterior, este Ministerio como ente rector del Sistema de Áreas Naturales Protegidas de El Salvador, apoya el Proyecto "Manejo Integrado del Área Protegida Trinacional Montecristo - APTM", con el propósito de que se inicien las gestiones para obtención de financiamiento del Fondo Ambiental Mundial (Global Environmental Facility - GEF).

Con toda consideración.



[Handwritten signature]
Hugo Barrera
MINISTRO.

17 NOV '05 15:48:28
BID GUATEMALA
RECIBIDO



MINISTRO

**MINISTERIO DE AMBIENTE Y RECURSOS NATURALES
GUATEMALA, C.A.**

Guatemala, 17 de Noviembre de 2005.
Oficio No. 1056 -05/JMD/ade.

Señor
Gerard Johnson
Representante del Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo en Guatemala

Estimado Señor Johnson:

Le saludo, deseándole éxitos en todas sus labores. Como es de su conocimiento el MARN sirve de Punto Focal Operacional del Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial (Global Environmental Facility—GEF) en Guatemala y me complace señalar el apoyo del Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales – MARN- al proyecto "Manejo Integrado del Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo" que el BID está gestionando ante el GEF en coordinación con este Ministerio y la Secretaría Ejecutiva del Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas (SE-CONAP). Este Proyecto facilitará la consolidación y el inicio de las actividades de manejo, del Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo (APTM), conformado por el conjunto de áreas protegidas de la Reserva de la Biosfera La Fraternidad en Guatemala, el Parque Nacional de Montecristo en El Salvador y el Parque Nacional de Montecristo en Honduras. La Institución ha estado involucrada desde febrero de 2004 en la formulación del proyecto, habiéndose asignado personal de este Ministerio y del SE-CONAP, al Comité Trinacional de Áreas Protegidas.

El Proyecto contribuirá a los objetivos de este Ministerio, que es el fortalecer el Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas, construir el Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano, desarrollar el manejo integrado de cuencas transfronterizas y facilitar la integración centroamericana. El día 27 de octubre del presente año, el Vicepresidente de Guatemala, con sus homólogos en El Salvador y Honduras, firmaron una resolución dentro del marco de la Comisión Trinacional del Plan Trifinio declarando el Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo de interés nacional y regional, y las intenciones de este Gobierno, dentro de las capacidades de nuestras instituciones, es el de apoyar el manejo adecuado para garantizar la conservación de sus recursos naturales y la protección de biodiversidad de importancia nacional, regional y global.

Por este medio, reitero mi anuencia para que el BID continúe con las gestiones necesarias ante el GEF para lograr el financiamiento para este importante proyecto.

Sin otro particular, me suscribo con las muestras de mi consideración y estima


 Juan Mario Davy Fuentes
MINISTRO DE AMBIENTE
Y RECURSOS NATURALES



CC: Vicepresidencia, Señor Julián Muñoz, Ministerios apropiados



REPUBLICA DE HONDURAS

Secretaría de Estado en las Dependencias de
Recursos Naturales y Ambiente
Dependencia de los señores Ministros

AD-S-1014-05

12 de diciembre de 2005

Señor
Andrés Marchant
Representante en Honduras
Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo

Estimado señor Marchant:

Post-It® Fax Note	7671	Date	# of pages ▶
To	Henrick Franklin	From	Mercedes Morf
Co./Dept.	BID - Washington	Co.	Plan Trifinio
Phone #		Phone #	
Fax #		Fax #	

SECRETARIA EJECUTIVA TRINACIONAL	
Fecha:	13 Diciembre 2005
Recibido por:	Roxana de Grande
SET:	MSP
Para:	HENRICK FRANKLIN
Copia:	
Archivo:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Tengo a bien manifestar nuestro apoyo al proyecto "Manejo Integrado del Área Protegida Trinacional Montecristo", que el Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID), está gestionando ante el Global Environmental Facility (GEF) en coordinación con esta Secretaría de Estado, como punto focal operacional del GEF en Honduras, quien mediante el Consejo Nacional de Areas Protegidas (Conap), solicita coordinar este gran proyecto trinacional, para poder involucrar las instituciones públicas y de la sociedad civil que forman parte del Conap, a fin de lograr una integración institucional y técnica participativa en el manejo de las áreas protegidas del país.

El proyecto facilitará la consolidación del Área Protegida Trinacional Montecristo (APTMT), conformado por el conjunto de las áreas protegidas: El Parque Nacional de Montecristo en El Salvador, la Reserva de la Biosfera la Fraternidad en Guatemala y el Parque Nacional de Montecristo en nuestro país; así como, el inicio de las actividades de manejo. Nuestro gobierno a través de la Secretaria de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente (SERNA), ha participado activamente desde febrero de 2004 en la formulación de este proyecto, esperando que el mismo contribuya a fortalecer el Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Honduras (Sinaph), a construir el Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano y a facilitar la integración centroamericana.

En fecha 27 de octubre del presente año, la Lic. Armida Villela de López Contreras, Designada Presidencial, firmó con sus homólogos de El Salvador y Guatemala, una Resolución dentro del marco de la Comisión Trinacional del Plan Trifinio, declarando el Área Protegida Trinacional Montecristo, de interés nacional y regional, y manifestando las intenciones del Gobierno de Honduras de apoyar dentro de sus capacidades el esfuerzo para facilitar su manejo, a fin de garantizar la conservación de sus recursos naturales y la protección de la biodiversidad a nivel nacional, regional y global.

Reiteramos nuestra anuencia para que el BID continúe con las gestiones necesarias ante el GEF, a fin de lograr el financiamiento para este proyecto.

Atentamente,

Patricia Panting G

C. Lic. Armida Villela de López Contreras/Designada Presidencial



100 metros al Sur del Estadio Nacional, Tegucigalpa, M.D.C. Honduras, CA /www.serna.gob.hn/sdespachio@serna.gob.hn
Tels. 232-1386, 232-2011, 232-4298 Fax: 232-6250, Avda. 1389, 4710

Annex F: GEF BD-1 Tracking Tool



Annex F: Tracking Tool for GEF Biodiversity Focal Area Strategic Priority One: “Catalyzing Sustainability of Protected Areas”

In the final regional workshop for the preparation of the GEF Project (Oct 24-28, 2005) it was decided with the members of the Trinational Protected Areas Committee (CTAP) only to fill in one tracking tool for the MTPAM. Since the GEF project aims at creating a trinational protected area managed by one Management Unit under one Integrated Management Plan and budget, the area should be evaluated and monitored as one protected area.

Section One: Project General Information

1. Project name: Integrated Management of the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area

2. Country (ies): Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala

National Project: _____ Regional Project: _____ x _____ Global Project: _____

3. Name of reviewers completing tracking tool and completion dates:

	Name	Title	Agency
Work Program Inclusion	Henrik Franklin ¹	Natural Resources Specialist	Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)
Project Mid-term			
Final Evaluation/project			

¹ The assessment was carried out in a participatory manner with members of the Trinational Protected Areas Committee (CTAP) during the final regional workshop for the preparation of the GEF Project (Oct 24-28, 2005)

Tracking Tool for GEF Biodiversity Focal Area Strategic Priority One:
Catalyzing Sustainability of Protected Areas

completion			
-------------------	--	--	--

4. Funding information

GEF support: __US\$3,000,000
Co-financing: __US\$5,825,000
Total Funding: __US\$8,825,000

5. Project duration: **Planned** __4__ years **Actual** _____ years

6. a. GEF Agency: UNDP UNEP World Bank ADB AfDB IADB
 EBRD FAO IFAD UNIDO

6. b. Lead Project Executing Agency (ies): Secretaría Ejecutiva Trinacional (SET) de la Comisión Trinacional del Plan Trifinio (CTPT)

7. GEF Operational Program:

- drylands (OP 1)
- coastal, marine, freshwater (OP 2)
- forests (OP 3)
- mountains (OP 4)
- agro-biodiversity (OP 13)
- integrated ecosystem management (OP 12)
- sustainable land management (OP 15)

Other Operational Program not listed above: _____

8. Project Summary (one paragraph):

The 4 year GEF/IDB project will facilitate the establishment of an integrated management framework for the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area (MTPA) located in the transboundary Trifinio Region between Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. The MTPA hosts valuable biodiversity of global and regional importance, including 48 endemic species and at least 50 species in danger of extinction and it is important for the production of water resources in the Region. In 1997, the three countries signed an international agreement for the execution of the Trifinio Plan, which aims at promoting the integrated development of the Trifinio Region. This agreement describes the Region as an area of special for the three countries, constituting an undividable ecological unit where only joint and coordinated actions by the three countries can offer a satisfactory solution to the problems affecting the area and the sustainable management of its natural resources. The establishment of the MTPA under a single management plan and operating structure is an important element of the Trifinio Plan. The GEF project will be executed under this institutional framework with the Trinational Executive Secretariat (SET) of the Trinational Commission for the Trifinio Plan (CTPT) as the executing agency. The Project activities are organized in the following components: 1) legal, territorial and institutional consolidation of the MTPA, 2) integrated management of the MTPA for biodiversity conservation; 3) sustainable use of the natural resources and environmental management in the MTPA and its buffer zone; and 4) monitoring and research of the socio-economic and ecological conditions in the MTPA and its buffer zone.

9. Project Development Objective:

Contribute to the protection and conservation of globally important biodiversity, natural processes, and environmental services of the MTPA in the Trifinio Region in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador and contribute to the implementation of the Mesoamerican Biological Corridor (MBC) in benefit of the population of the MTPA and its buffer zone.

10. Project Purpose/Immediate Objective:

Establish an efficient and operational trilateral framework for the integrated and participatory management of the MTPA.

11. Expected Outcomes (GEF-related):

The expected outcomes of the project are: i) a model for trilateral management has been established and is operating under the current structure of the CTPT and with the active participation of governmental and non-governmental groups of the region; ii) improved protection, restoration, and sustainable use of the ecosystems represented in the MTPA to protect the unique biodiversity and maintain the quality and quantity of water resources; iii) mitigation of the pressures and the causes which threaten the conservation and integration of the MTPA through the promotion of sustainable production practices and use of the natural resources among the populations living in the MTPA and its buffer zone; y iv) enhanced knowledge about the biodiversity, the ecological processes, and the value of the environmental services offered by the MTPA.

12. Types of Protected Area Activities Supported:

12. a. Please select all activities that are being supported through the project.

x Enabling Environment (please check each activity below)

x Policy, legislation, regulation

x Capacity building

Capacity building budget: At least US\$200.000 of GEF resources.

(Please record budgets for capacity building if they are clearly identified as a discrete budget line.)

Comments on Capacity Building: Please note if capacity building is geared towards indigenous and local communities:

Capacity building is an important activity throughout the project. Specific activities include covered with GEF funds include: capacity building for the members of the Trilateral Protected Area Committee (CTAP) in management aspects related to transboundary protected areas; capacity building of local stakeholders on aspects related to the protection and management of the MPTA; capacity building for private land owners on private reserve management.

Tracking Tool for GEF Biodiversity Focal Area Strategic Priority One:
Catalyzing Sustainability of Protected Areas

- Education and awareness raising
 Institutional arrangements

Finance and incentives

Replication and scaling up

Management practices related to status of biodiversity

12. b. Is carbon sequestration an objective of the project (This question is included for purposes related to the GEF-3 targets for the Climate Change focal area)

Yes No

The estimated amount of carbon sequestered is: _____

13. Project Replication Strategy

13. a . Does the project specify budget, activities, and outputs for implementing the replication strategy? Yes No

13. b. For all projects, please complete box below. An example is provided.

Replication Quantification Measure	Replication Target Foreseen at project start	Achievement at Mid-term Evaluation of Project	Achievement at Final Evaluation of Project
Establishment of pilot projects for ecological restoration in selected biological corridors	At least 3 demonstration projects initiated.		
Mechanisms for payments for environmental services provided by the APTM	At least 2 mechanisms developed and operational at end of project.		
Private land conservation	At least 50% of the private lands in the MTPA involved in conservation activities		

14. Scope and Scale of Project:

Please complete the following statements.

14.a. The project is working in:

- a single protected area
 multiple protected areas
 national protected area system

Tracking Tool for GEF Biodiversity Focal Area Strategic Priority One:
Catalyzing Sustainability of Protected Areas

14.b. The level of the intervention is:

- global
 regional
 national
 subnational

14. c. Please complete the table below. An example is completed.

Targets and Timeframe	Foreseen at project start	Achievement at Mid-term Evaluation of Project	Achievement at Final Evaluation of Project
Project Coverage			
Extent in hectares of protected area and buffer zone targeted by the project	13,924 Ha (MTPA) and 28,354 Ha (buffer zone)		

14. d. Please complete the table below for the protected areas that are the target of the GEF intervention. Use **NA** for not applicable. Examples are provided below.

Name of Protected Area	Is this a new protected area? Please answer yes or no.	Area in Hectares	Global designation or priority lists (E.g., Biosphere Reserve, World Heritage site, Ramsar site, WWF Global 200, , etc.)	Local Designation of Protected Area (E.g, indigenous reserve, private reserve, etc.)	IUCN Category for each Protected Area ²					
					I	II	III	IV	V	VI
1. MTPA	No	13,924	NA (Not applicable)	NA (Not applicable)		X				

2

- I. Strict Nature Reserve/Wilderness Area: managed mainly for science or wilderness protection
- II. National Park: managed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreation
- III. Natural Monument: managed mainly for conservation of specific natural features
- IV. Habitat/Species Management Area: managed mainly for conservation through management intervention
- V. Protected Landscape/Seascape: managed mainly for landscape/seascape protection and recreation
- VI. Managed Resource Protected Area: managed mainly for the sustainable use of natural ecosystems

Reporting Progress in Protected Areas: Data Sheet

Name of protected area	Montecristo Trinational Protected Area	
Location of protected area (country, ecoregion, and if possible map reference)	Honduras, Guatemala, and El Salvador	
Date of establishment (distinguish between agreed and gazetted*)	Agreed: 1987	Gazetted: 1987 ³
Ownership details (i.e. owner, tenure rights etc)	42% private, 58% public	
Management Authority	SET-CTPT, CTAP (CONAP, MARN, AFE-COHDEFOR)	
Size of protected area (ha)	13,924 Ha	
Number of staff	Permanent: 60 (El Salvador), 3 (Honduras), 5 (Guatemala) Temporary: 2 guards in Honduras and 2 guards in Guatemala	
Annual budget (US\$)	US\$165,000 (ES), US\$15,000 (HO), US\$10,000 (GU)	
Designations (IUCN category, World Heritage, Ramsar etc)	In this moment it does not have a designation.	
Reasons for designation	The MTPA is proposed mainly for ecosystem protection and recreational use.	
Brief details of World Bank funded project or projects in PA	Not necessary for GEF-funded projects.	
Brief details of WWF funded project or projects in PA	Not necessary for GEF-funded projects.	
Brief details of other relevant projects in PA	See Table 1 in the GEF Executive Summary.	
List the two primary protected area objectives		
Objective 1	Protect and conserve the biodiversity and natural processes of the MTPA in an integrated, participatory and trinational manner	
Objective 2	Sustain the environmental benefits in the region and contribute to the sustainable development of the local population.	
List the top two most important threats to the PA (and indicate reasons why these were chosen)		
Threat 1	Forest clearance for expansion of agriculture and livestock development	

³ The respective protected areas in Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras were legally established in 1987. In 2005, the countries approved the Integrated Management Plan for the MTPA which proposes an expansion of the original limits. These limits have not yet been legally declared, but during the GEF projects the required studies and processes will be facilitated to gradually adjust the original limits.

Threat 2	Forest fires
List top two critical management activities	
Activity 1	Clarifying land tenure and boundary demarcation
Activity 2	Enhance protection of the MTPA.

Name/s of assessor (including people consulted): Henrik Franklin (IDB) and Rikke Grand Olivera (IDB) and members of the Trinational Protected Areas Committee (MARN, SE-CONAP, AFE-COHDEFOR)

Contact details (email etc.): Henrik Franklin (henrikf@iadb.org) and Rikke Olivera (rikkeo@iadb.org)

Date assessment carried out (Day/Month/Year): 26/10/2005

* Or formally established in the case of private protected areas

Issue	Criteria	Score	Comments	Next steps
1. Legal status	The protected area is not gazetted	0		
Does the protected area have legal status?	The government has agreed that the protected area should be gazetted but the process has not yet begun	1		
	The protected area is in the process of being gazetted but the process is still incomplete	2		
<i>Context</i>	The protected area has been legally gazetted (or in the case of private reserves is owned by a trust or similar)	3 X	The original area in each country has been legally declared, but the legal establishment of the MTPA (proposed expansion of original area) is still subject to legal endorsement. It is nevertheless possible to initiate work with the existent legal framework.	Carry out the necessary studies and work to legally declare the MTPA (as integrated trinational area).
2. Protected area regulations	There are no mechanisms for controlling inappropriate land use and activities in the protected area	0		
Are inappropriate land uses and activities (e.g. poaching) controlled?	Mechanisms for controlling inappropriate land use and activities in the protected area exist but there are major problems in implementing them effectively	1 x	El Salvador has enforced control of inappropriate land use, but in Guatemala and Honduras there is not sufficient capacity to implement effective controlling activities.	Involve local communities and contract and train park rangers and establish collaboration with the local authorities
	Mechanisms for controlling inappropriate land use and activities in the protected area exist but there are some problems in effectively implementing them	2		
<i>Context</i>	Mechanisms for controlling inappropriate land use and activities in the protected area exist and are being effectively implemented	3		
3. Law enforcement	The staff have no effective capacity/resources to enforce protected area legislation and regulations	0		
Can staff enforce protected area rules well enough?	There are major deficiencies in staff capacity/resources to enforce protected area legislation and regulations (e.g. lack of skills, no patrol budget)	1 x	El Salvador's staff enforce the rules, but in Guatemala and Honduras there is not sufficient staff capacity to do it.	Contract and train park rangers and establish collaboration with national police and relevant authorities
<i>Context</i>	The staff have acceptable capacity/resources to enforce protected area legislation and regulations but some deficiencies remain	2		

	The staff have excellent capacity/resources to enforce protected area legislation and Regulations	3		
Issue	Criteria	Score	Comments	Next steps
4. Protected area objectives	No firm objectives have been agreed for the protected area	0		
Have objectives been agreed?	The protected area has agreed objectives, but is not managed according to these Objectives	1		
<i>Planning</i>	The protected area has agreed objectives, but these are only partially implemented	2 x	The objectives are established in the Integrated Management Plan (IMP) yet to be implemented	Implement the IMP with support from the GEF/IDB project.
	The protected area has agreed objectives and is managed to meet these objectives	3		
5. Protected area design	Inadequacies in design mean achieving the protected areas major management objectives of the protected area is impossible	0		
Does the protected area need enlarging, corridors etc to meet its objectives?	Inadequacies in design mean that achievement of major objectives are constrained to some extent	1		
<i>Planning</i>	Design is not significantly constraining achievement of major objectives, but could be improved	2	In the IMP different management zones are proposed and an enlargement of the boundaries is recommended in order to include more of the natural forest, This would require establishing co-management arrangements with private landowners since 42 % of the proposed area of the MTPA is on private hands.	Establish agreements and support activities with the private landowners on sustainable conservation and use of natural resources. Among the incentives will be the generation of income through activities of eco-tourism. In the medium term define new boundaries through the national administrative and legislative systems
	Reserve design features are particularly aiding achievement of major objectives of the protected area	3		
6. Protected area boundary demarcation	The boundary of the protected area is not known by the management authority or local residents/neighbouring land users	0		
Is the boundary known and demarcated?	The boundary of the protected area is known by the management authority but is not known by local residents/neighbouring land users	1 x	El Salvador has a demarcation of the protected area boundaries but Guatemala and Honduras do not	Perform a cadastral mapping of the public and private land ownership, redefine the boundaries and demarcate the new boundaries
<i>Context</i>	The boundary of the protected area is known by both the management authority and local residents but is not appropriately demarcated	2		

	The boundary of the protected area is known by the management authority and local residents and is appropriately demarcated	3		
Issue	Criteria	Score	Comments	Next steps
7. Management plan	There is no management plan for the Protected area	0		
Is there a management plan and is it being implemented?	A management plan is being prepared or has been prepared but is not being implemented	1 x	During the preparation phase of the GEF/BID Project an Integrated Management Plan (IMP) for the MTPA has been elaborated	The GEF/BID Project will facilitate the implementation of the IMP
	An approved management plan exists but it is only being partially implemented because of funding constraints or other problems	2		
<i>Planning</i>	An approved management plan exists and is being implemented	3		
Additional points	The planning process allows adequate opportunity for key stakeholders to influence the management plan	+1 x	The IMP was formulated with involvement of local stakeholders.	The GEF/IDB Project will support establishment of a Trinational Participation Forum in which local stakeholders will participate in planning, and topics related to the MTPA will be introduced in the existing National Stakeholders Committees under the PT-CARL.
	There is an established schedule and process for periodic review and updating of the management plan	+1		Schedule and process for periodic review and updating of the management plan must be established within the 4 years period of the GEF/BID project
<i>Planning</i>	The results of monitoring, research and evaluation are routinely incorporated into planning	+1	This is only the case in El Salvador	Establish a monitoring and evaluation system including the incorporation of results in the planning process.
8. Regular work plan	No regular work plan exists	0 x	Not yet	Elaborate and approve an annual work plan (first activity for the Trinational Management Unit that will be created with the GEF/IDB Project).
Is there an annual work plan?	A regular work plan exists but activities are not monitored against the plan's targets	1		
	A regular work plan exists and actions are monitored against the plan's targets, but many activities are not completed	2		
<i>Planning/Outputs</i>	A regular work plan exists, actions are monitored against the plan's targets and most or all prescribed activities are completed	3		

9. Resource inventory	There is little or no information available on the critical habitats, species and cultural values of the protected area	0		
Do you have enough information to manage the	Information on the critical habitats, species and cultural values of the protected area is not sufficient to support planning and decision making	1 x	Limited information available on biodiversity and trends in, for example, forest degradation and water quality.	Design and execute a research program and a information management system to support planning and decision-making.
Issue	Criteria	Score	Comments	Next steps
<i>Context</i>	Information on the critical habitats, species and cultural values of the protected area is sufficient for key areas of planning/decision making but the necessary survey work is not being maintained	2		
	Information concerning on the critical habitats, species and cultural values of the protected area is sufficient to support planning and decision making and is being maintained	3		
10. Research	There is no survey or research work taking place in the protected area	0		
Is there a programme of management-orientated survey and research work?	There is some ad hoc survey and research Work	1 x	Mainly carried out by NGOs and universities, but not according to a structured plan.	Design and execute a monitoring and research program and a information management system to support planning and decision-making.
<i>Inputs</i>	There is considerable survey and research work but it is not directed towards the needs of protected area management	2		
	There is a comprehensive, integrated programme of survey and research work, which is relevant to management needs	3		
11. Resource management	Requirements for active management of critical ecosystems, species and cultural values have not been assessed	0		
Is the protected area adequately managed (e.g. for fire, invasive species, poaching)?	Requirements for active management of critical ecosystems, species and cultural values are known but are not being addressed	1 x	El Salvador has some management but Honduras and Guatemala does not.	Establish the Trinational Management Unit of the MTPA by contracting an entity under co-management scheme.
	Requirements for active management of critical ecosystems, species and cultural values are only being partially addressed	2		

<i>Process</i>	Requirements for active management of critical ecosystems, species and cultural values are being substantially or fully addressed	3		
Issue	Criteria	Score	Comments	Next steps
12. Staff numbers	There are no staff	0		
Are there enough people employed to manage the protected area? <i>Inputs</i>	Staff numbers are inadequate for critical management activities	1 x	At the moment only El Salvador has park rangers and technical personal employed by the Government. In Honduras and Guatemala the municipalities are funding 2 guards in each country.	Execute a competitive bidding process and contract an entity to perform the trinational integrated management of the MTPA under a co-management arrangement. Park rangers, technical personal and the manager should be part of the contract, ensuring adequate handling of the current staff in El Salvador (transicion phase).
	Staff numbers are below optimum level for critical management activities	2		
	Staff numbers are adequate for the management needs of the site	3		
13. Personnel management	Problems with personnel management constrain the achievement of major management objectives	0		
Are the staff managed well enough? <i>Process</i>	Problems with personnel management partially constrain the achievement of major management objectives	1 x	The MTPA does not yet have integrated staff structure, so this questions in not really applicable for this situation yet.	Ensure that the Trinational Management Unit ensures adequate personell policies and management.
	Personnel management is adequate to the achievement of major management objectives but could be improved	2		
	Personnel management is excellent and aids the achievement major management objectives	3		
14. Staff training	Staff are untrained	0		
Is there enough	Staff training and skills are low relative to the needs of the protected area	1 x	There is very limited experience with integrated trinational management.	Develop and elaborate a training program for the new personal on the legal and institutional framework under which the MTPA must be managed.
	Staff training and skills are adequate, but could be further improved to fully achieve the objectives of management	2		

<i>Inputs/Process</i>	Staff training and skills are in tune with the management needs of the protected area, and with anticipated future needs	3		
15. Current budget	There is no budget for the protected area	0		
Is the current budget sufficient?	The available budget is inadequate for basic management needs and presents a serious constraint to the capacity to manage	1 x	While El Salvador has a budget for management, the budgets of Honduras and Guatemala are insignificant.	Gradually decline the GEF funded part of the management budget during the 4 year project period. Establish a special trust fund for the MTPA with contributions from protected area entrance fees, hydroelectric power plants and industries downstream using water resources from the MTPA.
	The available budget is acceptable, but could be further improved to fully achieve effective management	2		
Issue	Criteria	Score	Comments	Next steps
<i>Inputs</i>	The available budget is sufficient and meets the full management needs of the protected area	3		
16. Security of budget	There is no secure budget for the protected area and management is wholly reliant on outside or year by year funding	0 x	Only El Salvador currently has a budget, but it is approved on an annual basis.	Gradually decline the GEF funded part of the management budget during the 4 years project period. Establish a special trust fund for the MTPA with contribution from park entrance fees, hydroelectric power plants and industrial plants using water resources from the MTPA
Is the budget secure?	There is very little secure budget and the protected area could not function adequately without outside funding	1		
<i>Inputs</i>	There is a reasonably secure core budget for the protected area but many innovations and initiatives are reliant on outside funding	2		
	There is a secure budget for the protected area and its management needs on a multi-year cycle	3		
17. Management of budget	Budget management is poor and significantly undermines effectiveness	0		
Is the budget	Budget management is poor and constrains effectiveness	1 x	Budget management for the MTPA still under design	Consolidate and implement a sustainable financing plan as part of the GEF/IDB Project.

meet critical management needs?	Budget management is adequate but could be improved	2		
<i>Process</i>	Budget management is excellent and aids effectiveness	3		
18. Equipment	There are little or no equipment and facilities	0		
Are there adequate facilities?	There are some equipment and facilities but these are wholly inadequate	1 x	Only El Salvador has equipment	Invest in equipment and administration and tourist facilities in the MTPA as a whole.
	There are equipment and facilities, but still some major gaps that constrain management	2		
<i>Process</i>	There are adequate equipment and facilities	3		
Issue	Criteria	Score	Comments	Next steps
19. Maintenance of equipment	There is little or no maintenance of equipment and facilities	0		
Is equipment adequately maintained?	There is some <i>ad hoc</i> maintenance of equipment and facilities	1 x	Only El Salvador has equipment	Budget resources each year for the maintenance of equipment and facilities
<i>Process</i>	There is maintenance of equipment and facilities, but there are some important gaps in maintenance	2		
	Equipment and facilities are well maintained	3		
20. Education and awareness programme	There is no education and awareness programme	0		
Is there a planned education programme?	There is a limited and <i>ad hoc</i> education and awareness programme, but no overall planning for this	1 x	Environmental education in the MTPA is mainly carried out in the El Salvador section.	Elaborate and execute an awareness and information plan. Coordinate with secondary education centers to design an environmental education curriculum focused at the environmental services and protection practices of the MTPA (activity under the component 2 of the GEF/IDB Project)
<i>Process</i>	There is a planned education and awareness programme but there are still serious gaps	2		
	There is a planned and effective education and awareness programme fully linked to the objectives and needs of the protected area	3		

21. State and commercial neighbours Is there co-operation with adjacent land users?	There is no contact between managers and neighbouring official or corporate land users	0		
	There is limited contact between managers and neighbouring official or corporate land users	1 x	National Stakeholders Committees - NSC (private landowners, Municipal represents, civil organizations, local communities, etc) are already functioning under the Plan Trifinio institutional framework. The roles of the NSCs are to consensus activities and give input to the different projects under the Plan Trifinio including the involvement of the local stakeholders in project activities.	Insert the sustainable management and conservation of the MTPA in the agenda of the NSCs and establish a trinational forum for local stakeholders involving the MTPA. Establish agreements with the private landowners on sustainable conservation and use of natural resources.
	There is regular contact between managers and neighbouring official or corporate land users, but only limited co-operation	2		
<i>Process</i>	There is regular contact between managers and neighbouring official or corporate land users, and substantial co-operation on management	3		
	22. Indigenous people	Indigenous and traditional peoples have no input into decisions relating to the management of the protected area	0	
Issue	Criteria	Score	Comments	Next steps
Do indigenous and traditional peoples resident or regularly using the PA have input to management decisions? <i>Process</i>	Indigenous and traditional peoples have some input into discussions relating to management but no direct involvement in the resulting decisions	1	There are no indigenous communities in the MTPA. Members of the Maya Chorti community in the nearby areas have participated in preparatory workshops.	Include the indigenous people in the NSCs and management activities of the MTPA.
	Indigenous and traditional peoples directly contribute to some decisions relating to management	2		
	Indigenous and traditional peoples directly participate in making decisions relating to management	3		
23. Local communities	Local communities have no input into decisions relating to the management of the protected area	0		

Do local communities resident or near the protected area have input to management decisions? <i>Process</i>	Local communities have some input into discussions relating to management but no direct involvement in the resulting decisions	1		
	Local communities directly contribute to some decisions relating to management	2 x	NSC (private landowners, Municipal represents, civil organizations, local communities, etc) are already functioning under the Plan Trifinio institutional framework. The roles of the NSCs are to consensus activities and give input to the different projects under the Plan Trifinio including the involvement of the local stakeholders in project activities.	Include the local communities in tourism, conservation and patrolling activities. Insert the sustainable management and conservation of the MTPA in the agenda of the NSCs. Organize annual stakeholders forum.
	Local communities directly participate in making decisions relating to management	3		
<i>Additional points</i> <i>Outputs</i>	There is open communication and trust between local stakeholders and protected area managers	+1 x	Generally no, this has to be created	Provide information and an open communication with the private landowners and local communities. Include the NSCs in reviewing and designing management activities of their interest.
	Programmes to enhance local community welfare, while conserving protected area resources, are being implemented	+1	Somo limited activities in the buffer zone, but not in MTPA.	Include the local communities in income generating activities related to the management and use of the MTPA such as tourism, conservation and protection activities.
24. Visitor facilities	There are no visitor facilities and services	0		
Are visitor facilities (for tourists, pilgrims etc) good enough?	Visitor facilities and services are Inappropriate for current levels of visitation or are under construction	1 x	There only exist visitor facilities and services in El Salvador	Invest in visitor facilities as part of the infrastructure development plan.
	Visitor facilities and services are adequate for current levels of visitation but could be improved	2		
<i>Outputs</i>	Visitor facilities and services are excellent for current levels of visitation	3		

25. Commercial tourism	There is little or no contact between managers and tourism operators using the protected area	0 x	Currently not much contact.	Elaborate and execute a program to facilitate the local vocation of eco-tourism services. Establish a coordination panel between the tourism providers and the management of the MTPA.
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Issue	Criteria	Score	Comments	Next steps
Do commercial tour operators contribute to protected area management? <i>Process</i>	There is contact between managers and tourism operators but this is largely confined to administrative or regulatory matters	1		
	There is limited co-operation between managers and tourism operators to enhance visitor experiences and maintain protected area values	2		
	There is excellent co-operation between managers and tourism operators to enhance visitor experiences, protect values and resolve conflicts	3		
26. Fees If fees (tourism, fines) are applied, do they help protected area management? <i>Outputs</i>	Although fees are theoretically applied, they are not collected	0		
	The fee is collected, but it goes straight to central government and is not returned to the protected area or its environs	1		
	The fee is collected, but is disbursed to the local authority rather than the protected area	2		
	There is a fee for visiting the protected area that helps to support this and/or other protected areas	3	Only en El Salvador	When visitors facilities has been constructed in Guatemala and Honduras establish an entrance fee to the MTPA as a whole.
27. Condition assessment Is the protected area being managed consistent to its objectives?	Important biodiversity, ecological and cultural values are being severely degraded	0		
	Some biodiversity, ecological and cultural values are being severely degraded	1	Conversion of forest into agriculture and grazing land. Cultivation of coffee without shadow causing erosion. Hunting and illegal collection of threatened species.	Establish an efficient and sustainable trinational management of the MTPA
	Some biodiversity, ecological and cultural values are being partially degraded but the most important values have not been significantly impacted	2		
<i>Outcomes</i>	Biodiversity, ecological and cultural values are predominantly intact	3		
Additional points <i>Outputs</i>	There are active programmes for restoration of degraded areas within the protected area and/or the protected area buffer zone	+1	Only in El Salvador.	Carry out restoration activities in MTPA and buffer zone.

28. Access assessment	Protection systems (patrols, permits etc) are ineffective in controlling access or use of the reserve in accordance with designated objectives	0 x	Only in El Salvador	Construct protection infrastructure (eg. control tower). Contract the management of the MTPA to a third party responsible for employment and training of park guards. Promote the sustainable use of the natural resources of the MTPA.
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Issue	Criteria	Score	Comments	Next steps
Is access/resource use sufficiently controlled? <i>Outcomes</i>	Protection systems are only partially effective in controlling access or use of the reserve in accordance with designated objectives	1		
	Protection systems are moderately effective in controlling access or use of the reserve in accordance with designated objectives	2		
	Protection systems are largely or wholly effective in controlling access or use of the reserve in accordance with designated objectives	3		
29. Economic benefit assessment	The existence of the protected area has reduced the options for economic development of the local communities	0		
Is the protected area providing economic benefits to local communities?	The existence of the protected area has neither damaged nor benefited the local economy	1		
	There is some flow of economic benefits to local communities from the existence of the protected area but this is of minor significance to the regional economy	2 x	The water resources of the MTPA are driving hydroelectric power plants in El Salvador and the water is also used as potable and irrigation water. Local communities collect fire wood and there is various agro-forestry activities in the area of influence including coffee production	Include the local communities in income generating activities related to the management and use of the MTPA such as tourism, conservation and guardian activities.
<i>Outcomes</i>	There is a significant or major flow of economic benefits to local communities from activities in and around the protected area (e.g. employment of locals, locally operated commercial tours etc)	3		
30. Monitoring and evaluation	There is no monitoring and evaluation in the protected area	0	There is monitoring and evaluation carried out in El Salvador, but not elsewhere.	Establish a monitoring and evaluation system of management activities including the incorporation of results in the planning process (component 4 of the GEF/IDB Project)
Are management activities monitored against performance?	There is some ad hoc monitoring and evaluation, but no overall strategy and/or no regular collection of results	1		
	There is an agreed and implemented monitoring and evaluation system but results are not systematically used for management	2		
<i>Planning/Process</i>	A good monitoring and evaluation system exists, is well implemented and used in adaptive management	3		
TOTAL SCORE			21	

Annex G: Consultation and Process and Stakeholder Involvement (in Spanish)

Manejo Integrado del Area Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo (RS-X1016)

Anexo G: Proceso de Consulta e Involucramiento de los Actores Interesados

A. Antecedentes

Por los casi 17 años de esfuerzos de propiciar el desarrollo integrado bajo el Plan Trifinio, ya existe una historia de participación de organizaciones a todo nivel de los tres países. En la Región Trifinio existen varias organizaciones locales, la mayoría de ellas resultado de las iniciativas de proyectos ejecutados bajo el Plan Trifinio, como son las Asociaciones del Trifinio para el Desarrollo Sostenible (ATRIDEST) constituidas por medio del Proyecto Piloto Trifinio (PPT) en 1995, y conformadas en cada país por organizaciones de pequeños y medianos productores, cooperativas de ahorro y crédito, asociaciones de grupos integracionistas, asociaciones de grupos ecologistas y asociaciones de docentes ambientalistas. Por otro lado, el Programa Trinacional de Desarrollo Sostenible de la Cuenca Alta del Río Lempa (PT-CARL) ha organizado los Comités Nacionales de Involucrados (CNI) como mecanismo de participación en la planificación y coordinación de la ejecución de las actividades bajo este programa, y constituidos en la actualidad por representantes de los gobiernos municipios que abarcan la cuenca alta del río Lempa en los tres países, asociaciones/cooperativas productivas, asociaciones comunitarias, ONGs, y otros grupos de interés de acuerdo a su relación con el área.

También es importante mencionar que el área bajo atención del a atender bajo el PT-CARL comprende casi toda el área que rodea el Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo (APTM), incluyendo la mayor parte de su zona de amortiguamiento. Durante la preparación del PT-CARL se efectuó un barrido socioeconómico en la Región Trifinio, habiéndose identificado los principales actores sociales durante el proceso de diseño del programa. Esta información sirvió de base para la preparación del Plan de Manejo Integrado del APTM y el Proyecto propuesto. Durante el proceso de diseño del actual Proyecto (tanto la fase financiado por el Fondo Noruego del Banco y el PDF-B del GEF), se efectuó una serie de consultas, talleres y reuniones con varios grupos de interés a nivel de cada país y al nivel regional, tanto con representantes de agencias de los tres gobiernos nacionales, municipales, asociaciones de productores, organizaciones comunitarias y ONGs.

B. Talleres y Reuniones de Consulta Efectuadas por el Consorcio NORPLAN durante la Preparación del Diagnóstico y Plan de Manejo Integrado del APTM¹

El Consorcio NORPLAN fue contratado para llevar a cabo un diagnóstico socioambiental en los sectores guatemalteco y hondureño del área de trabajo como base para la preparación del Plan de Manejo Integrado (PMI) del APTM. Como parte de este proceso se realizaron talleres de consulta para incorporar la percepción de las comunidades, así mismo para informar sobre los objetivos que persigue en el manejo integrado del APTM. Durante los meses de octubre y noviembre del 2004, se realizaron jornadas de consulta en los municipios de Santa Fe y Ocotepeque en el sector de Honduras. Posteriormente en los meses de febrero a abril de 2005 se realizaron jornadas en Concepción Las Minas y Esquipulas en el sector de Guatemala. En todas estas jornadas se contó con la participación de miembros de las corporaciones municipales, Unidades Técnicas Municipales, Unidades Municipales Ambientales, representantes de organizaciones locales y representantes un grupo étnico (representante de grupos de la etnia Maya Chortí) asentado en el municipio de Ocotepeque, Honduras.

A continuación se presenta un resumen de cada encuentro, juntamente con el listado de los participantes. Este documento contiene memorias de eventos desarrollados en El Salvador, Guatemala y Honduras, incluyendo listados de participantes, cuyas aportaciones fueron consideradas en los análisis de la problemática social y ambiental de la zona. Estas contribuciones de la comunidad y las autoridades locales fueron tomadas en consideración en el análisis y las conclusiones presentadas en el Diagnóstico Socioeconómico y Ambiental. Las actividades de consulta durante esta consultoría se concentraron en los sectores Hondureños y Guatemaltecos del APTM, debido a que durante el año 2002 se realizó en el sector perteneciente a El Salvador (Parque Nacional de Montecristo y áreas aledañas) una serie de consultas relacionadas a la formulación del Plan de Manejo del Parque

¹ Los resultados específicos de los talleres y reuniones de consulta efectuados por el Consorcio NORPLAN están disponibles en el documento: Diagnóstico Ambiental y Socioeconómico Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo, Anexo 5—Mecanismos de Participación, Agosto de 2005.

Nacional Montecristo (MAG/PAES/CATIE, 2003). Dicho trabajo incluyó más de 10 Talleres de Evaluación Rural Participativa, cubriendo las siguientes áreas: San José Ingenio (caseríos Majaditas, Buena Vista, El Cobano y Casas de Teja), El Rosario (caseríos El Rosario, Limo - El Rosario, Cazulejas y Honduritas), El Limo (caseríos Las Mesas y el Limo), El Carrizalillo (caseríos El Carrizalillo y Hacienda Vieja), El Brujo (caseríos El Zapote y El Brujo).

1. Taller de Consulta en el Municipio de Santa Fe, Ocotepeque, Honduras: 29 de Octubre de 2004

Los 30 participantes que asistieron a la jornada del 29 de octubre de 2004, en la cabecera municipal, una vez organizados en grupos y habiéndose explicado la boleta de caracterización municipal presentan los siguientes aportes:

Informaron sobre el avance de la agricultura mediante el establecimiento de cultivos permanentes como el café, los que actualmente suman 211 ha. y una extensión reducida de musáceas; ubicados en zonas aledañas al área núcleo del Parque Nacional Montecristo. Identificando a éste cultivo como los principales presiones sobre el recurso bosque y agua.

En segundo grado en extensión identifican a los granos básicos, con una área de 170 ha, los cuales el 83 % es cultivado con maíz y el 17% con frijol, presentando mayores daños al suelo que el cultivo del café, por los sistemas tradicionales de producción, empleados por las familias asentadas en la zona de amortiguamiento.

Por otro lado la población identifica extensiones significativas de pasto tanto natural, Calingero (*Melinis minutiflora*), Jaragua (*hiparrenia rufa*), Brizantha (*Brachiaria spp*) los que suman 140 ha. que se desarrollan en la zona de amortiguamiento del Parque Nacional Montecristo, no obstante la actividad ganadera es muy baja, algunos pobladores alquilan los potreros de su propiedad para pastoreo de ganado en época de verano. No se tienen datos sobre carga animal en los potreros, pero la población apunta no tener problemas de erosión en los potreros por la actividad.

En cuanto al recurso bosque, los tipos de bosque que definen cercanos a sus poblaciones son los mixtos (pino-latifoliados) y latifoliados con sus respectivos riesgos de incendios en durante la época de verano, siendo las causas el control de garrapata, la rosa y quema para establecimiento de labranzas dedicadas a siembra de granos básicos. La propiedad de los bosques esta en manos de particulares, sin establecerse claramente si es explotado con fines comerciales o solo para consumo de leña; en forma unánime manifiestan que ningún bosque cuenta con un plan de manejo, es comprensible la situación por las restricciones en la ley, según la categoría de manejo tanto la zona núcleo, como la zona de amortiguamiento.

Las fuentes de agua que se abastece la población proviene del lugar denominado el Chuctal, categorizada como propiedad municipal y de la comunidad, en su mayoría la población conduce el agua por sistema de tubería ya sea PVC o poliductos.

Los principales riesgos que la población a experimentado son los derrumbes en la épocas de invierno (agosto-octubre) que obstaculizan el transito de vehículos por la zona y la contaminación de la fuentes de agua por el beneficiado del café, siendo mas acentuada durante el periodo de noviembre a abril.

Al consultar sobre los proyectos presentes en la zona se identifica las acciones de gestión de PRONADEL (Programa Nacional de Desarrollo Local) adscrito a la Secretaria de Agricultura y Ganadería, Proyecto Tierra adscrito a Plan Trifinio y ONGs como ADEL (Asociación de Desarrollo Local) todos estos apoyan las comunidades en la ejecución de proyectos de infraestructura como ser construcción de escuelas, así como, la gestión de proyectos, capacitaciones técnicas y apoyo financiero. Otro aspecto relevante lo constituye que todas las comunidades cuentan con organizaciones locales que gestionan el desarrollo y bienestar social de la población, entre ellas destacan: patronatos comunales, juntas de agua, asociaciones de padres de familias en las escuelas y una asociación de productores del Mojanal.

A continuación se presenta la lista de los participantes en el taller.

Lista de Participantes en el Taller de Consulta, Santa Fe, Ocotepeque, 29 de Octubre de 2004

NOMBRE	LUGAR DE PROCEDENCIA	INSTITUCIÓN QUE REPRESENTA
Sandra E. Polanco	Olvidito	Maestra de Escuela

Verónica Lisseth E. Villeda	Peña Quemada	Maestra de Escuela
Aricely M. Cerrato M.	Piedra Amolar	Maestra de Escuela
Daniel Guillén	Mojanal	Presidente Patronato
José Efraín Tovar	Las Delicias	Presidente Patronato
Natividad Castañeda	Las Vegas	Junta de Agua
Antonio Monrroy	Santa Fe	Municipalidad
Jordán F. Rosa R.	Santa Fe	Municipalidad
Sandra A. Guerra	Santa Fe	Municipalidad
Cesar A. Polanco	Santa Fe	Patronato Santa Fe
José I. Pineda	Las Vegas	Junta de Agua
Eugenio Murcia	Peña Quemada	Pte. Patronato J. A.
Pedro Ramos	Piedra Amolar	Auxiliar P.
Hugo pedro P.	Santa Fe	Juez de Paz
Juan Ramón Murillo	Santa Fe, Ocotepeque	Secretaria de Salud
Roque H. Polanco	Santa Fe	Municipalidad
Bélgica Araceli Polanco	Santa Fe	Municipalidad
Ronald Iván Lucero	Santa Fe	Municipalidad
Carlos Manuel Polanco	Santa Fe	Patronato Santa Fe
Marco Tulio Hernández	Santa Fe	Ministerio Salud Publica
Santiago Álvarez Ramírez	Olvidito	Junta de Agua
Julio Cesar Avalos	Las Vegas	Patronato
Julio Cesar Castellanos	La Labor	AFE-COHDEFOR
Mauro Humberto Arita	Las Vegas	Maestro de Escuela
José Irene Maldonado	Piedra Amolar	Pte. Patronato
José Luz Santos H.	Olvido	Patronato
Suyapa del Carmen Santo	Olvido	Patronato
Walter Anael Tovar	Mojanal	Pte. Patronato
Sebastián Gil	Piedra Amolar	Patronato
Héctor Alonso Aguirre	Esquipulas CTPT /PTCART	CTPT/ PTCART

2. Taller de Consulta, Municipio de Ocotepeque, Ocotepeque, Honduras, 1 de Noviembre de 2004

Se desarrolló la jornada en el salón municipal de la alcaldía de Ocotepeque, a cual asistieron 23 participantes de 7 aldeas, así como representantes de la Secretaria de Educación, ATRIDEST, AFE-COHDEFOR. Una vez organizados en grupos y habiéndose explicado la boleta de caracterización municipal presentan los siguientes aportes:

Los participantes brindaron información sobre las extensiones de tierra dedicadas al cultivo de café en las aldeas aledañas al Parque Nacional de Montecristo, indicando la existencia de 110 ha. del cultivo, utilizando en su totalidad sistemas de beneficiado húmedo tradicional que está contaminando muchas fuentes de agua. Los cultivos que ocupan el primer lugar en extensión son los granos básicos donde reportan una extensión aproximada de 113 ha., de las cuales un 67% lo ocupa el maíz y el resto el frijol, bajo sistemas tradicionales de producción. No cuentan con variedades mejoradas de polinización libre y no aplican ninguna medida conservacionista o productiva en sus labranzas, exponiendo los suelos a procesos erosivos, con la consecuente pérdida de fertilidad.

En el municipio se reporta una gran extensión de pastos, que aun no han sido verificados por un sistema satelital actualizado y pueden existir sesgo con las colindancias de muchos potreros, pudiendo la población duplicar áreas, no obstante se reportan 820 ha. de pastos distribuido entre grama común (*Paspalum notatum*), jaragua (*hiparrhenia rufa*) y calingero (*Melinis minutiflora*) ésta actividad no es representativa de los pobladores de la zona, en muchos casos estas áreas son el resultado de tierras en descanso, en la que ha crecido pasto, lo que algunos productores los alquilan en tiempo de verano para repasto de ganado.

El recurso forestal lo representa 458 ha, identificadas por la población que son privadas en su totalidad, no conocen que algún propietario cuente con un plan de manejo, la explotación es para madera y leña, que es trasladada en su mayoría para El Salvador.

La situación de las fuentes de agua, preocupa a la población principalmente por la reducción de los niveles aun así el 50% de las fuentes son conservadas, en su nacimiento, el resto presenta signos de deterioro por la intervención del hombre con actividades agrícolas, la razón fundamental radica en que la mayoría se encuentran en manos de propietarios privados.

La zona más vulnerable se ubica en las comunidades de Valle Nuevo y El Dormitorio por derrumbes registrados en el invierno, obstaculizando el paso de vehículos, y contaminación por aguas mieles en las épocas de corta de café durante los meses de diciembre a marzo. Todas las comunidades coinciden en la falta de sistemas de alerta temprana.

La presencia de instituciones públicas y privadas es muy limitada, destacándose ATRIDEST, no obstante las organizaciones locales son las que más destaca la población, entre ellas, patronatos comunales, juntas de agua, asociación de padres de familia, comités agrícolas. Todas las organizaciones locales enfocan sus esfuerzos en la gestión de proyectos comunitarios para infraestructura escolar (escuelas), algunos proyectos de reforestación y asistencia técnica.

A continuación se presenta la lista de los participantes en el taller.

Lista de Participantes del Taller de Consulta, Ocotepeque, Honduras, 1 de Noviembre de 2004

NOMBRE	LUGAR DE PROCEDENCIA	INSTITUCIÓN QUE REPRESENTA
Toribio Cruz Rosa	El Duraznal	Patronato
José Virgen Rosa	Las Hojas	Patronato
Carlos Manuel Cardona	Las Hojas	Representante comunitario
José Manuel Hernández	El Dormitorio	Patronato
Juan Antonio Ramos	El Dormitorio	A. Auxiliar
Manuel de Jesús Gonzáles	El Duraznal	Representante comunitario
Carlos Humberto Pavón	Las Hojas	Patronato
Julio Cesar Castellanos	La Labor	AFE-COHDEFOR
José Pablo Rosa	S. A. Las Hojas	Junta de Agua
Santos Antonio Ramos	El Dormitorio	A. Auxiliar II
Marco Antonio Maldonado	S. J. De la Reunión	Patronato
Marco Antonio Castro	Los Planes	A. Auxiliar
Juan Ramón Hernández	El Sompoperon	Patronato
Reynerio Moreira	Ocotepeque	ATRIDEST
Jorge Castellón	El Duraznal	A. Auxiliar
Miguel Ángel Rodríguez	Los Planes	Patronato
Juan Ramón Santos	El Chagüí ton	A. Auxiliar
Adelmo Antonio Cardona	S. A. Las Hojas	A. Auxiliar
Jacobo Pleiter	S. A. Las Hojas	Patronato
Carlos Manuel López	El Dormitorio	Representante comunitario
Santos de J. Hernández	El Dormitorio	Patronato
Emilio Mejía López	Ocotepeque	Coordinación Dep. E. Ambiental
Luis Alberto Arita	Ocotepeque	UMA

3. Talleres de Consulta en los Salones Municipales de Esquipulas y Concepción de las Minas, Guatemala, 5 y 6 de Abril de 2005

El objetivo principal de las reuniones fue de brindar información de los avances generales realizados en la elaboración del PMI del APTM. Específicamente, se aprovecharon las reuniones para: Informar sobre los avances generales realizados hasta el momento por la consultaría, la importancia del PMI y la Categoría de Manejo del área; informar sobre el Sistema Guatemalteco de Área protegidas (SIGAP) y la importancia de la Reserva de Biosfera La Fraternidad (RBF) en el contexto nacional y regional; y obtener información valiosa de los actores identificados como retroalimentación para la elaboración del Plan de Manejo.

Para a cada taller, se siguieron los siguientes pasos metodológicos. Se presentaron los objetivos de la reunión, el marco de desarrollo de la consultoría y los resultados que se esperaban de la reunión. La charla del SIGAP y el contexto de la RBF se facilitó por medio de una charla apoyada en PowerPoint.

Posteriormente se brindó una charla sobre categorías de manejo y zonificación presentando para ello una fotocopia del reglamento de la Ley de Áreas Protegidas de Guatemala en lo relacionado al artículo 8. Se indicó las diferencias establecidas en las categorías a nivel internacional desde esa perspectiva: diferencias en manejo de ser Parque Nacional y Reserva de Biosfera. Toda la facilitación se llevó a cabo desde la óptica nacional puesta en el contexto Trinacional.

Luego se prosiguió con la fase de trabajo de grupo los cuales se organizaron en tres o cuatro grupos de manera general. A cada grupo se le facilitaron fichas en las cuales anotarían las cinco principales respuestas a las siguientes preguntas, con la excepción de la pregunta 4 que quedó abierta:

1. ¿Que esperamos del área protegida?
2. ¿Cuales son las principales amenazas?
3. ¿Cuales actividades o proyectos deben desarrollarse para beneficio de las comunidades y del área protegida?
4. ¿Quiénes deben participar principalmente?
5. ¿Cómo podemos participar en el manejo del área?

Al finalizar las discusiones grupales se procedió a pegar cada una de las respuestas en la pared y realizar una síntesis y discusión grupal durante la cual se realizaron algunos aportes diferentes a los realizados a nivel de cada uno de los grupos, los cuales fueron sintetizados para su consideración posteriormente como productos del diagnóstico ambiental y socioeconómicos.

En el *taller de Esquipulas*, los grupos se organizaron por proximidad geográfica (a propuesta de ellos) con el afán de poder tener puntos de vista más cercanos lo cual facilitaría en gran medida la adecuación. Posteriormente se repartieron hojas con colores diferentes para cada grupo para que a cada pregunta establecieran las principales cinco cosas a tomar en cuenta, con excepción de la pregunta 4 que era abierta a ese número. Posteriormente cada grupo realizó una breve presentación de cada una de sus respuestas, las cuales se pegaron en la pared y se discutieron.

Durante la presentación de que era el SIGAP y las áreas protegidas especialmente la de la Reserva de Biosfera La Fraternidad no se realizaron muchas preguntas. Durante la exposición de las Categorías de Manejo, objetivos, zonificación si fue posible un intercambio más fuerte centrado principalmente sobre las actividades permitidas o no en cada una de las categorías indicadas (Parque Nacional y Reserva de Biosfera) y según la zonificación (Núcleo, Amortiguamiento y Usos Múltiples).

- **Grupo 1.** Integrado por representantes de las comunidades de La Granadilla, Limón, Cuestona, Tisaquín, Las Toreras, Plan de La Arada.
- **Grupo 2.** Integrado por representantes de las comunidades de Barrial, Guayabito
- **Grupo 3.** Integrado por representantes de las comunidades de San Joaquín (Miguel Ramos, Matías Zamora, Leopoldo Zamora, Cecilia Suchite, Transito García, María Suchitz)
- **Grupo 4.** Integrado por representantes de Caserío Agua Caliente y Caserío Sompopero - San Nicolás

Para el *taller en Concepción de las Minas*, los grupos se organizaron por proximidad geográfica sobre la base del trabajo desarrollado el día anterior, con el afán de poder tener puntos de vista más cercanos lo cual facilitaría en gran medida la adecuación. Posteriormente se repartieron hojas con colores diferentes para cada grupo para que a cada pregunta establecieran las principales cinco cosas a tomar en cuenta, con excepción de la pregunta 4 que era abierta a ese número. Posteriormente cada grupo realizó una breve presentación de cada una de sus respuestas, las cuales se pegaron en la pared y se discutieron.

Durante la presentación de que era el SIGAP y las áreas protegidas especialmente la de la Reserva de Biosfera La Fraternidad se generó bastante controversia en cuanto a la legitimidad o no del establecimiento de la misma toda vez que se indicaba que no existía un fundamento legal. Se evidenció una fuerte confusión y desconocimiento con relación a la declaratoria del área y los documentos que se amparan. Es necesario enviar copia del acuerdo gubernativo de declaratoria del área protegida. Igualmente se dejó en manos de la OMMA de Concepción Las Minas una copia de la ley de áreas protegidas y su reglamento para que pudieran contar con el soporte que requerían.

Una buena parte de la discusión giro alrededor de la falta de presencia de las instituciones encargadas para el manejo de los recursos naturales y áreas protegidas. Un aspecto muy importante es la preocupación de las personas asistentes al taller del sesgo de fondos y acciones hacia Esquipulas indicando que a Concepción no se le toma en cuenta. Indicaron a la vez que los mecanismos de *participación* “son impositivos”.

Durante la exposición de las Categorías de Manejo, objetivos, zonificación nuevamente el intercambio se centro sobre las actividades permitidas o no en cada una de las categorías indicadas (Parque Nacional y Reserva de Biosfera) y según la zonificación.

Se discutieron varios aspectos relacionados a la problemática propia del área en función de cacería ilegal, emisión de licencias para tala de bosque por parte de INAB y una serie de acciones que fueron discutidas dentro del contexto de la zonificación interna del área. Existe una fuerte preocupación a que la categoría de manejo Trinacional no permita el desarrollo normal de actividades que actualmente se realizan en el área.

- **Grupo 1.** Integrado por representantes de las comunidades de Limones, Cañada y la Ermita.
- **Grupo 2.** Integrado por representantes de las comunidades de Apantes, Casa Quemada, Jícaro Peinado, Jicarito y Concepción Las Minas
- **Grupo 3.** Integrado por representantes de las comunidades de Ermita, Aguajal, Liquidámba, Olvido, OMMA de la Municipalidad de Concepción.

Sobre la base de las intervenciones realizadas y las conversaciones individuales en los dos talleres, se evidencia la expectativa que el área protegida pueda brindar una serie de bienes y servicios bajo criterios que permitan el uso sostenible. En general se espera poder realizar actividades productivas y que las mismas no se encuentren sujetas a restricciones demasiado fuertes principalmente en las áreas donde hay alta concentración de centros poblados.

Por otro lado nuevamente las amenazas se centran en la pérdida de biodiversidad (bosque, flora y fauna), contaminación y falta de agua. Respecto al recurso agua la participación de las personas de Concepción Las Minas indicaron que ellos son los principales productores de ese líquido para la región lo cual debiera verse reconocido de alguna manera ya que hasta el momento no se ha dimensionado en su justa medida. Indican que debe establecerse un sistema de pago para que de alguna forma los hermanos salvadoreños paguen por el consumo de agua proveniente de Guatemala.

Se evidencia la preocupación de las amenazas sobre los ecosistemas boscosos, protección de especies particulares y el tema agua como elementos sobre los cuales debe de enfocarse los esfuerzos de las acciones puntuales. Esto recoge en buena medida los elementos identificados a lo largo del desarrollo del trabajo de consultoría

La participación de los dos municipios dejó patente que existen dos niveles de interés:

- En el caso de Esquipulas se evidencia una necesidad de diversificar actividades e interacción con otros socios potenciales y fortalecer su participación en la toma de decisiones. Se indica bastante sobre la participación.
- En el caso de Concepción Las Minas la necesidad de contar con espacios y foros de participación que les permita insertarse en la toma de decisiones. Se menciona mucho el aspecto de correcta aplicación de leyes.

En todo caso el fortalecimiento de las organizaciones de base fue una constante, partiendo del contexto del poder local (municipalidades) y el empoderamiento para el manejo del área. La falta de presencia institucional adecuada en el área se evidencia por la identificación de las instituciones asociadas, en tanto que en Esquipulas se vertieron una cantidad variable de nombres del lado de Concepción la identificación de actores clave se llevo a un nivel muy general. Un aspecto importante de recalcar es el hecho que Concepción Las Minas en general no tiene buena percepción de los niveles de intervención de las instituciones que participan en el área. Si bien el tema de la pérdida de bosque por causa de la tala (licita e ilícita) preocupa bastante, es prioritario para ellos establecer quién debe extender las licencias ya que indican que el INAB no debiera seguir extendiendo licencias son tomar en cuenta a las Municipalidades principalmente.

La identificación de proyectos a desarrollar en el área se pueden separar en aquellos servicios básicos que el Estado de Guatemala tiene la obligación de garantizar principalmente lo relacionado a: rutas de acceso, letrización y acceso a agua potable. Por otro lado existen toda una gama de proyectos o actividades que pueden desarrollarse dentro del marco de administración propiamente del área protegida tales como: establecimiento de granjas de reproducción o cultivo, ecoturismo, reforestación por mencionar algunos.

A continuación se presenta la lista de los participantes en el taller.

Lista de Participantes del los Talleres de Consulta en Esquipulas y Concepción las Minas, Guatemala, 5 y 6 de Abril de 2005

No.	Nombre	Comunidad	Municipio
1	Fabio Solís	La Granadilla	Esquipulas
2	Juan Alberto Castañeda	Los Pinos	Esquipulas
3	Eleodoro Ramírez	San Nicolás	Esquipulas
4	Cristóbal Suchite	Sompopero, San Nicolás	Esquipulas
5	Juan Méndez	Caserío Las Toreras	Esquipulas
6	Jesús Pérez	San Nicolás	Esquipulas
7	Doroteo de María	Colonia Los Pinos	Esquipulas
8	Santiago Murcia P.	Agua Caliente	Esquipulas
9	Israel Morales	Cuestona	Esquipulas
10	Gilberto Pérez	Caserío Guayabito	Esquipulas
11	Juan Ángel Pérez	Caserío Guayabito	Esquipulas
12	Santos Nicolás García Pérez	Caserío Guayabito	Esquipulas
13	Juan Roberto Jiménez	Caserío El Limón	Esquipulas
14	Miguel Ángel Ramos V	Caserío San Joaquín	Esquipulas
15	Dionisio Ramos Ramírez	Caserío El Barrial	Esquipulas
16	Cecilia Suchete García	Caserío San Joaquín	Esquipulas
17	Transito del Carmen García Paíz	Caserío San Joaquín	Esquipulas
18	María Zamora	Caserío San Joaquín	Esquipulas
19	María Agustina Sin	Caserío San Joaquín	Esquipulas
20	José Natalio Ramos Cruz	Caserío El Barrial	Esquipulas
21	Rolando Aldana Asencio	No indico	Esquipulas
22	Leopoldo Zamora	Caserío El Limón	Esquipulas
23	David García Marcos	Plan de Arada	Esquipulas
24	Sirilo Suchite	Plan de Arada	Esquipulas
25	Domingo Antonio Najera	Caserío Tizaquín	Esquipulas
26	Santos Tomás Pérez	Caserío Amatal	Esquipulas
27	José Concepción Martínez	Montesinos	Esquipulas
28	Dennis L. Esquivel	Municipalidad Esquipulas	Esquipulas
29	Luis R. Hernández Acevedo	Municipalidad Esquipulas	Esquipulas
30	Mario Roberto Jolon Morales	PROBIOMA	Esquipulas
31	Roberto Ruíz Fumagalli	PROBIOMA	Esquipulas
32	Personas que no firmaron (4)		Esquipulas
33	Isac T Romero	Casa Quemada	Concepción Las Minas
34	Demetrio Rodríguez	Aldea Liquidámbar	Concepción Las Minas
35	Julio Cesar Posadas Aguirre	Aldea Liquidámbar	Concepción Las Minas
36	Celestino Payes	Los Apantes	Concepción Las Minas
37	Gilberto Ramírez	Jicaro Peinado	Concepción Las Minas
38	Edwin Rolando Posadas Portillo	Jicarito	Concepción Las Minas
39	Julio Enrique Villeda Machorro	Concepción Las Minas	Concepción Las Minas
40	Alex Enrique Rodríguez	Concepción Las Minas	Concepción Las Minas
41	Edgar Leonel Portillo	El Aguajal	Concepción Las Minas
42	Edy Rene Beza Beza	Concepción Las Minas	Concepción Las Minas
43	Víctor Manuel Jiménez Lara	La Cañada	Concepción Las Minas

No.	Nombre	Comunidad	Municipio
44	Bartimen Duarte R.	Limonos	Concepción Las Minas
45	Mario Augusto de Paz	La Ermita	Concepción Las Minas
46	Jesús M. Trigueros	La Cañada	Concepción Las Minas
47	José Antonio Leverru	Alcalde Municipal	Concepción Las Minas
48	José Gabriel Posadas	OMMA Municipal	Concepción Las Minas
49	José Antonio Martínez	La Cañada	Concepción Las Minas

C. Talleres y Reuniones de Trabajo del Grupo de Trabajo a Cargo del Diseño del Proyecto Manejo Integrado del APTM

En adición, se estableció un grupo de trabajo interdisciplinario bajo la autoridad de la Comisión Trinacional del Plan Trifinio (CTPT) con la Secretaría Ejecutiva Trinacional (SET), los Directores Ejecutivos Nacionales (DEN) de la CTPT, representantes de las agencias rectoras de áreas protegidas de los tres países en el Comité Trinacional e Áreas Protegidas del Trifinio (CTAP), y el Equipo de Proyecto del Banco, quienes se reunieron en una decena de talleres durante la preparación del Proyecto. A continuación se presenta la lista de los participantes en los talleres y reuniones y los resultados de cada una.

Listado de Reuniones del Grupo de Trabajo e Invitados Especiales para la Preparación del Proyecto de Manejo Integrado del APTM

Fecha	Lugar	Objetivos y Resultados	Participantes
24/09/2004	Esquipulas, Guatemala	Taller de arranque del proyecto Plan de Manejo Integrado del Parque Trinacional Montecristo, revisión del plan de trabajo de la consultoría NORPLAN y acordaron un plan de acción para la formulación del proyecto BID/ GEF. Decidieron someter el proyecto bajo Programa Operacional 4: Manejo de Ecosistemas Montañosos.	SET, CTPT, CTAP, DEN, H. Franklin-BID, P. Dulin, Consultoría NORPLAN, Alcaldes, ONG's
7y8/10/2004	Santa Ana, El Salvador	La consultoría presentó el plan de trabajo de la Consultora enfocado en cuatro áreas: Diagnostico socioeconómico y ambiental, Plan integrado de manejo, Programa de acción regional, y Plan de participación ciudadana a los del CTAP. Dr. Karl Thunes de NORPLAN/NFG y los del CTAP elaboraron el contenido del plan de manejo integral del Área Protegida Trinacional del Macizo Montecristo.	SET, CTPT, CTAP, DEN El Salvador, Consultoría NORPLAN, K. Thunes-NFG/ NORPLAN
18y19/11/2004	Ocotopeque, Honduras	1. Presentación y discusión de los resultados del diagnóstico del área de estudio del Proyecto. 2. Presentación del resumen del Plan de Manejo del Parque Nacional Montecristo- El Salvador. 3. Presentación y discusión del borrador del Documento de Concepto del Proyecto BID/GEF. 4. Los participantes de la reunión se dividieron en tres grupos de trabajo para discutir el Documento de Concepto, compartir ideas para la implementación del proyecto y elaborar las matrices que servirán de base para la construcción del Marco Lógico. El Grupo Uno discutió los aspectos institucionales y legales para la consolidación de los límites del APTM y el manejo trinacional, la participación y el papel de los actores locales y el financiamiento sostenible. El Grupo Dos discutió los aspectos identificados, incluyendo la zonificación del área protegida, indicadores para el monitoreo ecológico y socioeconómico y la importancia mundial de la biodiversidad en el área. El Grupo Tres discutió el manejo del área, educación ambiental, usos sostenibles de los recursos naturales, generadores de empleo y coordinación con PTCARL.	SET, CTPT, CTAP, DEN, H. Franklin-BID, P. Dulin, Consultoría NORPLAN
20/01/2005	Metapán, El Salvador	El CTAP revisó y discutió los primeros borradores de los documentos Diagnostico Socio-económico y Ambiental	CTPT, CTAP

Fecha	Lugar	Objetivos y Resultados	Participantes
		y PMI del APTM y compartió sus observaciones a los documentos con el grupo consultor.	
14-16/02/2005	Esquipulas, Guatemala	El objetivo de la reunión fue presentar a la sociedad civil del área de estudio la iniciativa de establecer un área protegida trinacional en el Macizo de Montecristo, mediante un diálogo con sectores representativos de la misma. La participación de los actores locales sea un insumo de primordial importancia en el diseño del marco de manejo trinacional a proponer por el grupo consultor. Los actores invitados trabajaron en dos grupos con los consultores para analizar el contexto e implicancias de las distintas amenazas que se han identificado para la biodiversidad, los ecosistemas y los recursos hídricos en la zona de influencia del APTM. Los participantes identificaron sus causas principales de las amenazas, la ubicación donde son críticas y posibles medidas mitigatorias.	CTPT, CTAP, DEN, Consultoría NORPLAN, Actores locales, Alcaldes, Asociaciones Comunitarias, Representante de la Etnia Maya Chortí, Propietarios Privados
30 y 31/03/2005	Copán, Honduras	El objetivo de la reunión fue a lograr una posición unificada del Comité Trinacional de Áreas Protegidas de las observaciones al documento Primer Borrador del Plan de Manejo Integrado del APTM y compartir sus sugerencias con el Grupo Consultor antes del taller trinacional con los actores locales.	SET, CTPT, CTAP, Consultoría NORPLAN
13/04/2005	San Salvador, El Salvador	Reunión de trabajo para llegar a los acuerdos de: 1. Definición del APTM. 2. Categoría de manejo e instrumento de declaratoria. 3. Marco institucional trinacional. 4. Plazo de PMI. 5. Actualización del cronograma para la preparación del PMI.	SET, CTPT, CTAP, P. Dulin, Consultoría NORPLAN
24-26/05/2005	San Ignacio, La Palam, El Salvador	El objetivo de la reunión fue a discutir los elementos claves del Plan de Manejo Integrado del Área Protegida Trinacional Montecristo: características naturales y elementos de conservación en la APTM, identificación de presiones principales, régimen y categoría de manejo del APTM, definición de zonificación interna y de Zona de Amortiguamiento, programas de manejo, sub-programas y actividades claves, esquema organizativo para el manejo del APTM y principales actores para el manejo del APTM. También, la presentación de las Principales Componentes del Programa de Acción Regional y discusión preliminar sobre fuentes de financiamiento para definir que se financia con fondos GEF y identificar otras fuentes de financiamiento. Además, el grupo consultor trabajó con los actores locales en un taller de intercambio sobre los principales elementos del Plan de Manejo Integrado (PMI), la Propuesta del Proyecto BID/ GEF y identificar recursos locales para la disminución de las amenazas presentadas en el PMI del APTM.	CTPT, CTAP, DEN; BID, P. Dulin, Consultoría NORPLAN, Actores locales, Alcaldes, Asociaciones Comunitarias, Etnia Maya Chortí, Propietarios Privados, ONGs
14 y 22/07/2005	Esquipulas, Guatemala	El objetivo de la reunión fue revisar los borradores finales: Diagnóstico Socio-económico y Ambiental, Plan de Manejo Integrado del APTM y Plan de Acción Regional y lograr una posición unificada del Comité Trinacional de Áreas Protegidas, la Consultoría NORPLAN y el señor Paul Dulin, consultor GEF/ BID.	CTPT/SET, CTAP, P. Dulin, Consultoría NORPLAN
22-23/09/05	San Salvador, El Salvador	Presentación de los resultados preliminares de la consultoría de análisis legal e institucional (IRG). Se llegaron a acuerdos sobre lo siguiente: (a) que se puede proceder con el manejo del APTM sin que haya cambios en los límites externos de las tres áreas protegidas, y (b)	CTPT/SET, Secretarios de las Vice-Presidencias, DEN, CTAP, P. Dulin, Consultoría

Fecha	Lugar	Objetivos y Resultados	Participantes
		que la CTPT puede ser delegada la autoridad de administrar la APTM.	IRG
25-28/10/05	San Salvador, El Salvador	Se llevaron a cabo las siguientes actividades: (a) reuniones con propietarios de tierras en el APTM con la presentación del contenido del Proyecto GEF, (b) acuerdos sobre la Resolución 04-2005, la cual fue firmada por los tres Vice-Presidentes declarando la APTM y la intención de proceder en implementar el PMI, (c) acuerdo sobre el contenido del Proyecto GEF.	Vice-Presidentes, CTPT/SET, Secretarios de las Vice-Presidencias, DEN, CTAP (incluyendo Directores), propietarios privados, BID, P. Dulin, Consultoría IRG

D. Estrategia para Facilitar la Participación del Público durante la Ejecución del Proyecto de Manejo Integrado del Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo

El marco institucional propuesto para la ejecución del Plan de Manejo Integrado del APTM ha sido conceptualizado para garantizar la plena participación de los grupos de interesados en las decisiones que les afectarían, tanto al nivel de los tres países como al nivel trinacional. En primer lugar, se insertarán los objetivos y actividades del Proyecto Manejo Integrado del APTM en la agenda de los Comités Nacionales de Involucrados (CNI), agregando otros grupos de interés directamente involucrados en el manejo y protección del APTM, por ejemplo, los entes o individuos propietarios de terrenos adentro y aledaños al APTM. Por otro lado, se establecerá un foro para la participación de los involucrados, la cual estará conformado por representantes de los CNI y la Asociación de Propietarios Privados del APTM (a crearse con apoyo del Proyecto GEF), las agencias rectoras de los tres gobiernos en el manejo de áreas protegidas representadas en el CTAP (MARN, CONAP y AFE/COHDEFOR), la SET, el Gerente de la Unidad Técnica Trinacional, el Director de la Unidad Trinacional de Manejo y el BID (como observador), y será convocada al menos una vez por año a fin de velar para que se ejecuten las acciones prioritarias de manejo del área en pleno acuerdo con los grupos de interesados. La membresía y funcionamiento de dicho foro será fortalecida según lo requiere bajo el Proyecto. La SET y el CTAP tomará las recomendaciones del foro como insumo en la revisión y aprobación de los Planes Operativos Anuales e Informes del Proyecto GEF.

El Proyecto incluye actividades para fortalecer la capacidad de gestión de los diversos grupos de participantes/beneficiarios, incluyendo las siguientes actividades de capacitación y formación de recursos humanos:

- Reclutamiento y formación de guardarecursos y otras nóminas de las comunidades aledañas al APTM (a ser contratado por la Unidad Trinacional de Manejo).
- Capacitación de los miembros de los CNI en aspectos de gestión y protección de los recursos naturales y el ATM.
- Capacitación y asesoría a propietarios de las tierras privadas en el APTM para que formen su Asociación de Reservas Privadas de Montecristo y participen en acciones de manejo y protección de los recursos naturales.
- Capacitación de productores y sus asociaciones en la aplicación de prácticas agrícolas y forestales sostenibles.
- Formación de grupos de jóvenes ecologistas (*Amigos de Montecristo*) y capacitación de sus miembros para que participen en actividades de gestión ambiental y protección en el APTM y su zona de amortiguamiento.
- Capacitación para la reconversión vocacional en trabajos relacionados al sector turístico como son guías, operadores de transporte, restaurantes, confección de artesanías, y afines.

Cabe mencionar que el Proyecto considerará los aspectos de participación y los impactos socioeconómicos de las intervenciones mediante la aplicación de su sistema de monitoreo y evaluación. Se generarán las requeridas líneas base de información socioeconómica para mejorar el

conocimiento y monitorear: i) en nivel de participación de los grupos cívicos y los gobiernos locales en las actividades promovidas por el Proyecto; ii) el nivel de adopción de las tecnologías de uso de la tierra y los recursos naturales; iii) los cambios en los rubros vocacionales y las fuentes de generación de ingresos (especialmente en cuanto al turismo y vocaciones relacionadas); y iv) el impacto de las actividades antrópicas en el uso de los recursos naturales en el APTM y su zona de amortiguamiento.

Annex H: Detailed financial plan and activity costs for the baseline and incremental activities

Integrated Management of the Montecristo Trinational Protected Area (RS-X1016)
ANNEX H: Detailed financial plan and activity cost for the Baseline and Incremental Activities

Components/Sub-components	Activities/use of resources	Sources of financing	Costs (US\$)			
			Baseline	GEF Alternative with co-financing (Incremental)		
Component 1: LEGAL, TERRITORIAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CONSOLIDATION OF THE MTPA			Gov.	200.000	GEF	1'775.000
			Other	760.000	Gov.	751.000
					Other	401.000
a. Regularization of land ownership and the redelimitation and demarcation of boundaries of the MTPA	1) Cadastre, regularization and delimitation of the MTPA boundaries	GEF PATH (HO/World Bank) LAP II (ES/World Bank) Municipalities, Communities, Private property owners		75.000 75.000 75.000		150.000 25.000 25.000 25.000
	2) Boundary demarcation of the MTPA	MARN, SE-CONAP, AFE/COHDEFOR				20.000
b. Consolidation and implementation of the trinational legal and institutional framework for participatory management of the MTPA	1) Contracting of the staff of the Trinational Management Unit (TMU)	GEF Municipalities				1.050.000 72.000
	2) Training of rangers (eg. fire control, monitoring)	GEF				50.000
	3) Integration of management and protection staff into MTPA	Montecristo National Park (MARN)				479.000
	4) Staff time of Trifinio Trinational Protected Areas Comité (CTAP) and technical staff of the nacional protected areas authorities	MARN, SE-CONAP, AFE/COHDEFOR		200.000		72.000
	5) Regular meetings of the CTAP (3/year)	GEF				36.000
	6) Capacity building and training for CTAP members, networking with transboundary PA workgroups (for example CCAD/IUCN Transboundary Protected Areas Initiative and the Global Transboundary Protected Areas Network of the WCPA/IUCN), seminars and professional exchanges	GEF				96.000
	7) Contracting of a support personell to assist the Manager of the Trinational Technical Unit (UTT) in supervising the work of the TMU	GEF				100.000

Components/Sub-components	Activities/use of resources	Sources of financing	Costs (US\$)	
			Baseline	GEF Alternative with co-financing (Incremental)
	8) Administrative and logistical support by the SET and UTT	CTPT	--	100.000
	9) Training for members of the National Stakeholders Committees (NSC) on aspects related to the MTPA	GEF PT-CARL Binational Program for Transboundary Development El Salvador-Honduras (EU)	-- 75.000 250.000	20.000 25.000 50.000
	10) Meetings of the Trinational Stakeholders Forum	GEF PT-CARL Members of the CNI	-- 60.000 --	43.000 24.000 75.000
	11) Contracting of specialized services for the preparation of policy-legal instruments related to MTPA	GEF CTPT/SET MARN, SE-CONAP, AFE/COHDEFOR	-- -- --	50.000 20.000 20.000
c. Promotion of sustainable financing of the management of the MTPA	1) Workshops/coordination meetings with representatives of other projects and programs	GEF CTPT/SET/DEN/UTT	-- --	30.000 20.000
	2) Contracting of specialized services to establish mechanisms for payment of environmental services and Sustainable Financing Plan	GEF Water Resources Management (IDB/CTPT) Ecoservices Project (MARN/World Bank)	-- -- 150.000	150.000 50.000 30.000
	3) Staff time of legal advisors of national protected areas for establishment of Special Trust Fund for MTPA	MARN, SE-CONAP, AFE/COHDEFOR	--	20.000

Components/Sub-components	Activities/use of resources	Sources of financing	Costs (US\$)			
			Baseline	GEF Alternative with co-financing (Incremental)		
COMPONENT 2: INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT OF THE MTPA FOR THE CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY			Gov.	400.000	GEF	1'060.000
			Other	400.000	Gov.	211.000
					Other	1,157.000
a. Consolidation of functional land-use plan and zoning scheme for MTPA	1) Meetings to negotiate functional land-use plan and zoning scheme	GEF	--	15.000		
		Water Resources Management (IDB/CTPT)	25.000	25.000		
		PT-CARL	--	20.000		
		MARN, SE-CONAP, AFE/COHDEFOR	--	6.000		
	2) Contracting of specialized services to prepare definitive functional land use plan and zoning scheme, including regulations and guidelines	GEF	--	50.000		
		PT-CARL	150.000	35.000		
		Social Investment Fund/Local Dev't (ES)	75.000	25.000		
	3) Purchase and/or generation of georeferencial information to prepare plans	GEF	--	20.000		
		PT-CARL	150.000	20.000		
		MARN, SE-CONAP, AFE/COHDEFOR	150.000	15.000		
	4) Publishing and dissemination of plans and related regulations and guidelines, manuals	GEF	--	10.000		
		PT-CARL	--	10.000		
b. Establishment and maintenance of the management, protection and visitor/public use infrastructure in the MTPA	1) Contracting of specialized services to assist TMU design of management and public use infrastructure	GEF	--	25.000		
		MARN, SE-CONAP, AFE/COHDEFOR	--	15.000		
	2) Installation of management, protection and public use infrastructure of the MTPA	GEF	--	600.000		
		Programa Ambiental de El Salvador (BID/MAGA/MARN)	--	300.000		
	3) Integration to MTPA of existing infrastructure and equipment in Montecristo National Park (ES)	Parque Nacional de Montecristo (MARN)	250.000	100.000		
	5) Purchase and maintenance of technical and field equipment, mobilization units (vehicles) and communication equipment	GEF	--	300.000		
		SE-CONAP, AFE/COHDEFOR	--	30.000		

Components/Sub-components	Activities/use of resources	Sources of financing	Costs (US\$)	
			Baseline	GEF Alternative with co-financing (Incremental)
c. Natural resources management and conservation in private lands in the MTPA	1) Meetings with private land owners	GEF	--	10.000
		PT-CARL	--	10.000
	2) Capacity building and training for private land owners	GEF	--	30.000
		PT-CARL	--	15.000
		CCAD	--	20.000
		MARN, SE-CONAP, AFE/COHDEFOR	--	45.000
	3) Installation of minimum management and protection infrastructure on private lands	Private land owners and staff	--	62.000
		Private land owners of MTPA	--	50.000
	4) Maintenance of forest cover, functions and ecological services on private lands	PT-CARL	--	25.000
		Private land owners in the MTPA	--	540.000

Components/Sub-components	Activities/use of resources	Sources of financing	Costs (US\$)	
			Baseline	GEF Alternative with co-financing (Incremental)
COMPONENT 3: SUSTAINABLE USE OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN THE BUFFER ZONE AND BIOLOGICAL CORRIDORS OF THE MTPA			Gov. --	GEF 225.000
			Other 3'985.000	Gov. 35.000
				Other 2'350.000
a. Promotion of environmentally sustainable agriculture, agroforestry and tourism in the buffer zone of the MTPA	1) Capacity building and extension activities on sustainable agriculture, agro-forestry, reforestation (including communication materials, manuals, guidelines etc)	PT-CARL PRODERT MARENA Program (COHDEFOR/BID) Binational Program on Transboundary Development El Salvador-Honduras (EU) Agricultural producers	500.000 150.000 100.000 500.000 300.000	500.000 50.000 25.000 200.000 100.000
	2) Capacity building and advisory services on organic coffee production, certification and development of a trinational coffee brand	GEF PT-CARL PRODERT Coffee producers in the MTPA and buffer zone	-- 150.000 50.000	5.000 50.000 20.000 80.000
	3) Contracting of specialized services for an inventory of tourism assets in the MTPA and buffer zone and preparation of a tourism development strategy and marketing	GEF Binational Program on Transboundary Development El Salvador-Honduras (EU) PT-CARL	-- 100.000 --	40.000 25.000 25.000
	4) Capacity building for vocational reconversion towards the tourism sector (guides, transport, restaurants, handicrafts, etc.)	Binational Program on Transboundary Development El Salvador-Honduras (EU) PT-CARL Communities, firms, individuals	200.000 50.000 --	75.000 50.000 20.000
	5) Contracting of specialized services to prepare a diagnostic and prepare a handicraft development program using selected natural materials and supporting marketing activities	GEF Binational Program on Transboundary Development El Salvador-Honduras (EU) PT-CARL	-- 300.000 35.000	5.000 75.000 25.000
	6) 3 demonstration projects for cleaner production in coffee industries in MTPA buffer zone	PT-CARL Coffee industries	125.000 75.000	75.000 45.000

Components/Sub-components	Activities/use of resources	Sources of financing	Costs (US\$)	
			Baseline	GEF Alternative with co-financing (Incremental)
b. Constitution of biological corridors interconnected with the MTPA	1) Ecological and socioeconomic assessments in the 3 corridors and preparation on implementation plans	GEF	--	45.000
		PT-CARL	--	15.000
	2) Establishment of ecological restoration pilot projects in the 3 corridors	GEF	--	45.000
		PT-CARL PRODERT Land owners in the corridors	-- -- --	75.000 25.000 150.000
c. Promotion of environmental awareness among the local population	1. Workshops, field activities and environmental education events with schools, municipalities, productive and grass roots organizations	GEF	--	25.000
		PT-CARL	50.000	90.000
		PRODERT	25.000	25.000
		Public schools	25.000	25.000
	2) Awareness raising campaign on rational water use	Water Resources Management (IDBCTPT)	20.000	25.000
		GEF	--	15.000
	3) Contracting of specialized services to prepare environmental education curricula in schools	PT-CARL	--	25.000
		GEF	--	20.000
	4) Dissemination/communication materials	PT-CARL	--	25.000
		Water Resources Management (IDB/CTPT)	--	25.000
	5) Support to establishment of local youth groups ("Friends of the MTPA")	GEF	--	20.000
		PT-CARL	25.000	45.000
		MARN, SE-CONAP, AFE/COHDEFOR	--	35.000
		Municipalities	--	10.000
	6) Awareness raising among local residents about sanitation (including solid waste)	GEF	--	5.000
		Sustainable Development, Environment, Water Resources Upper Lempa River Basin (IAEA)	30.000	20.000
		PT-CARL	225.000	20.000
		PRODERT	50.000	10.000
		Social Investment Funds	100.000	10.000
		Projects of international NGOs	100.000	5.000
Municipalities and communities		200.000	25.000	
Social Investment Funds		150.000	100.000	
PT-CARL		200.000	50.000	
Programs of international NGOs		75.000	50.000	
Municipalities and communities	75.000	60.000		
7) Small water and sanitation projects in the MTPA buffer zone				

Components/Sub-components	Activities/use of resources	Sources of financing	Costs (US\$)	
			Baseline	GEF Alternative with co-financing (Incremental)
COMPONENT 4: MONITORING AND INVESTIGATION OF ECOLOGICAL AND SOCIOECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN THE MTPA, ITS BUFFER ZONE AND BIOLOGICAL CORRIDORS			Gov. 200.000	GEF 365.000
			Others 1'290.000	Gov. 110.000
				Others 575.000
a. Monitoring and evaluation system	1) Contracting of specialized services to help the TMU design a monitoring system for the Project and the MTPA and consolidate the baseline and finance periodic monitoring activities during project in the MTPA, its buffer zone and the corridors	GEF PT-CARL Water Resources Management (IDB/CTPT) Program for Sustainable Development, Environment and Water Resources in the Upper Lempa River Basin (IAEA) Proyecto ProBosque (COHDEFOR/BID) Programa Binacional de Desarrollo Fronterizo El Salvador-Honduras (EU)	-- 100.000 75.000 175.000 150.000 150.000	120.000 25.000 50.000 50.000 75.000 50.000
	2) Air surveillance flights over the MTPA	GEF	--	20.000
b. Research program to support the management of the MTPA	1) Preparation of research plan and financing of small research projects, including analysis of the value of environmental services provided by the MTPA	GEF Water Resources Management – Regional Public Goods (IDB/CTPT) Sustainable Development, Environment, Water Resources Upper Lempa River Basin (IAEA) Ecoservices (MARN/Banco Mundial) Investigadores Internacionales	-- 40.000 50.000 150.000 50.000	100.000 25.000 25.000 25.000 125.000
c. Project information system	1) Purchase of communications and geographic information equipment, satellite imagery, databases, software (incl., training)	GEF PT-CARL CTPT/SET/UTT GTZ/CONAP/Chiquimula MARN, SE-CONAP, AFE/COHDEFOR SINIT (Honduras/World Bank)	-- 100.000 50.000 100.000 150.000 150.000	70.000 50.000 15.000 25.000 75.000 25.000
	2) Contracting of specialized services to develop a Project Website and train staff of the SET, UTT and UMT on how to use and manage	GEF CTPT/SET	-- --	15.000 5.000
	3) Dissemination events, transboundary PA workshop, web outreach, publishing of reports, maps and other communication materials	GEF PT-CARL CTPT/SET/UTT	-- -- --	40.000 25.000 15.000

Components/Sub-components	Activities/use of resources	Sources of financing	Costs (US\$)	
			Baseline	GEF Alternative with co-financing (Incremental)
OTHER COSTS			--	GEF 75.000
a. Financial audits		GEF	--	40.000
b. Contingency (1%)		GEF	--	35.000
TOTAL INVESTMENTS OF THE BASELINE AND GEF ALTERNATIVE			Gov. 800.000 Others 6'435.000 US\$ 7'235.000	GEF 3'500.000 Gov. 1'107.000 Others 4'483.000 US\$ 9'090.000

Annex I: Co-financing commitment letters

CONSEJO NACIONAL DE AREAS PROTEGIDAS
PRESIDENCIA DE LA REPUBLICA
GUATEMALA

REFERENCIA Of. 724-200

Guatemala, 3 de noviembre de 2005

Señor
GERARD JOHNSON
Representante
Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo en Guatemala
Su Despacho

Estimado Señor Jonson,

Tengo el honor de dirigirme a su persona deseándole éxitos en las actividades a su digno cargo.

A través de la presente, me permito manifestar en mi calidad de Representante Legal del Consejo Nacional de Áreas Protegidas el apoyo institucional al proyecto titulado "Manejo Integrado del Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo" y la intención de someter el mismo al Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial (Global Environmental Facility-GEF) para su financiamiento.

Esta institución ha estado involucrada directamente en la formulación de este importante proyecto, como miembro del Comité Trinacional de Áreas Protegidas, por más de 18 meses. El Proyecto converge plenamente con los objetivos de nuestro país y consolida el Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas, fortalece el Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano y facilitar la integración centroamericana.

Es importante hacer mención, que el día 27 de octubre del presente año, el excelentísimo señor Vicepresidente de la República de Guatemala, con sus homólogos de El Salvador y Honduras, firmó una resolución dentro del marco de la Comisión Trinacional del Plan Trifinio declarando el Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo (APTMT) como el conjunto de las áreas protegidas de la Reserva de la Biosfera La Fraternidad en nuestro país, y el Parque Nacional de Montecristo en El Salvador y el Parque Nacional de Montecristo en Honduras, unidos en el Punto Trifinio.

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CONSEJO NACIONAL DE AREAS PROTEGIDAS
PRESIDENCIA DE LA REPUBLICA
GUATEMALA

REFERENCIA 2.../

En ese orden de ideas, esta Secretaria Ejecutiva reitera su intención de seguir apoyando el establecimiento y la administración efectiva del APTM, ya que se considera la conservación de sus recursos naturales y la protección de biodiversidad de esta área protegida trinacional de interés nacional, regional y global.

Sin otro particular, me suscribo de usted.


D^{ca}. Ana Luisa Alguero Morales
SECRETARIA EJECUTIVA
CONAP





**COMISION TRINACIONAL DEL PLAN TRIFINIO
EL SALVADOR – GUATEMALA – HONDURAS
SECRETARIA EJECUTIVA TRINACIONAL**

Calle José Martí N° 17, Colonia Escalón, San Salvador, El Salvador, C.A.
Teléfono: (503) 2264-3619, 2264-3620, Fax (503) 2264-3621
e-mail: mltor@trifinio.org Pag Web: www.trifinio.org

San Salvador, 7 de octubre de 2005

SET-590/2005

cc: H. Franklin

NOV - 7 2005

Señor
Robert Kaplan, Jefe
División de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales/Región 2
Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo/Washington

Estimado Señor Kaplan:

En nombre de la Comisión Trinacional del Plan Trifinio (CTPT) agradezco el apoyo del Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID), como Agencia Ejecutora del Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial (*Global Environmental Facility—GEF*), para la formulación del “Plan de Manejo Integrado del Area Protegida Trinacional Montecristo” y del “Proyecto Manejo Integrado del Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo”; así como el acompañamiento en la gestión de financiamiento del mismo Proyecto al GEF.

Como es de su conocimiento por más de 18 meses, la CTPT ha venido coordinando activamente el proceso de elaboración del Plan de Manejo Integrado y la formulación del Proyecto. Con ese objetivo, se conformó un equipo trinacional en el que participaron, los miembros del Comité Trinacional de Áreas Protegidas conformado por las agencias rectoras de áreas protegidas de El Salvador, Guatemala y Honduras, la Secretaría Ejecutiva Trinacional, el BID y consultores en diferentes especialidades. El equipo realizó varios talleres de consulta con actores locales de los tres países donde participaron líderes de las comunidades y aldeas cercanas al Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo (APTM), propietarios privados, organizaciones no gubernamentales y gobiernos locales.

Al concluir el proceso de formulación del Plan y del Proyecto, los Vicepresidentes de los tres países resolvieron aprobar que el conjunto de las siguientes áreas protegidas: Parque Nacional de Montecristo en El Salvador, Reserva de la Biosfera La Fraternidad en Guatemala y Parque Nacional de Montecristo en Honduras conformen el (APTM); así como dar su respaldo para el manejo integrado del APTM mediante acciones de carácter trinacional que promuevan el mantenimiento, la viabilidad y la funcionalidad de los ecosistemas y el sostenimiento de la biodiversidad que en ella existen.

El Proyecto Manejo Integrado del APTM aprobado por la CTPT, está en el espíritu del Tratado del Plan Trifinio que impulsa la integración centroamericana y, además, es completamente coincidente con los objetivos del Plan Trifinio y del Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano.

En vista de la importancia trascendental que para la consecución de los objetivos del Plan Trifinio tiene el Proyecto, la CTPT se compromete a forjar la coordinación y ejecución del mismo; así como facilitar el co-financiamiento con los proyectos y programas bajo su responsabilidad en la Región de Trifinio, incluyendo: El Programa Trinacional para el Desarrollo Sostenible de la

Cuenca Alta del Río Lempa/PT-CARL y el Proyecto Promoción de Administración del Agua como Bien Público Regional en la Cuenca Alta del Río Lempa/BPR (los dos financiados por el BID); y el Proyecto Desarrollo Sostenible del Medio Ambiente y Recursos Hídricos en la Cuenca Alta del Río Lempa (financiado por la Organización Internacional de Energía Atómica).

Reiteramos nuestra anuencia y solicitud para que el BID continúe con las gestiones necesarias ante el GEF para lograr el financiamiento para este importante proyecto.

Sin otro particular, me suscribo con las muestras de mi consideración y estima



Mercedes Llort

Secretaria Ejecutiva Trinacional del Plan Trifinio

- C.c. ✓ Licenciada Ana Vilma de Escobar –Vicepresidenta de El Salvador
✓ Doctor Eduardo Stein Barillas – Vicepresidente de Guatemala
✓ Licenciada Armla Villela de López Contreras –Designada a la Presidencia de Honduras
✓ Licenciada Miriam Hirezi –Directora Ejecutiva Nacional de El Salvador
✓ Licenciado Julián Muñoz – Director Ejecutivo Nacional de Guatemala
✓ Licenciado Ricardo Cardona –Director Ejecutivo Nacional de Honduras



Administración Forestal del Estado Corporación Hondureña de Desarrollo Forestal

14 de Noviembre del 2005
Oficio-GG-410-2005

Señor
Andrés Merchant
Representante
Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo en Honduras
Su Despacho

Estimado Señor Merchant:

Tengo el honor de dirigirme a su persona deseándole éxitos en las actividades a su digno cargo.

A través de la presente, me permito manifestarle en mi calidad de Gerente General de la administración Forestal del Estado (AFE-COHDEFOR), Responsable del Sistema Nacional de Áreas Protegidas de Honduras, el apoyo institucional de los procesos tanto del (Plan de Manejo Integrado de Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo) y la intención de someter el mismo al Fondos para el Medio ambiente Mundial (Global Environmental Facility- GEF) para su financiamiento.

Nuestra Institución a través de la Dirección del Departamento de Áreas protegidas y Vida Silvestre (DAPVS) y Región Forestal de Occidente, han actuado como miembros de comité trinacional de áreas protegidas, involucrados en los procesos de elaboración de Plan de Manejo Trinacional y lo relacionado al proyecto GEF, que viene a fortalecer al Sistema Nacional de Áreas protegidas de Honduras.

Destacamos el evento trascendental realizado en San Salvador, El Salvador el 17 de octubre del presente año, en donde los tres vicepresidentes de El Salvador, Guatemala y Honduras a través de nuestro designado presidencial Señora Arnida de López Contrera reafirmado mediante resolución, dentro de marco de la comisión trinacional del plan trifinio, declarando el Áreas protegida Trinacional de Montecristi (APTM) como el conjunto de las áreas protegidas de la Reserva de la biosfera La Fraternidad en nuestro país, y el Parque Nacional de Montecristi en El Salvador y el Parque Nacional de Montecristi en Honduras, unidos en el Punto Trifinio.

En base a lo anterior esta Gerencia General seguirá apoyando, haciéndole extensivo para los Proyecto MARENA-COHDEFOR y PROBOSQUE. Reitera la importancia que reviste el establecimiento y la administración integrada del Área Protegida Trinacional Montecristo, ya que su protección, conservación de la biodiversidad representa un interés nacional y regional tal como esta contemplado en las estrategias Regional para la Conservación y Uso Sostenible de la Biodiversidad en Mesoamérica, Programa Estratégico Regional de Trabajo en Áreas Protegidas y Programa Estratégico Regional para la Conectividad, aprobados en el seno de la Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo (CCAD)

Sin otro particular me suscrito de usted.

Atentamente

Ing. Evelyn
Gerente General
AFE-COHDEFOR



Post-It* Fax Note	7671	Date	14/11/05	# of pages	1
To	Henrick Franklin	From	Mercedes Lort		
Co./Dept.		Co.			
Phone #		Phone #	22 64 3619		
Fax #		Fax #	(503) 22 64 3621		

Cc: Archivo



SISTEMA DE LA INTEGRACIÓN CENTROAMERICANA
COMISIÓN CENTROAMERICANA DE AMBIENTE Y DESARROLLO



Agencia Arpita uno del Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano. A un paso más pedroso de Managua

Ref: CCAD-682-05
San Salvador, 21 de noviembre 2005

Señor
Bob Kaplan
Banco Interamericano para el Desarrollo
Washington, DC., Estados Unidos

Estimado Señor Kaplan:

Me es grato informarle que la Secretaría Ejecutiva de la Comisión Centroamericana de Ambiente y Desarrollo (SE-CCAD) considera que el Proyecto GEF-BID-CTPT/SET "Manejo Integrado del Area Protegida de Montecristo" es una valiosa contribución a la implementación del Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano (CBM) y la Iniciativa Mesoamericana de Desarrollo Sostenible (IMDS) del Plan Puebla Panamá (PPP).

Esta Secretaría se compromete a promover colaboración entre ese Proyecto y las distintas iniciativas ya en marcha por la SE-CCAD, incluyendo, entre otros el CBM, el Proyecto Corazon y el Programa Regional de Apoyo al Manejo de Areas Privadas.

Sin otro particular, me suscribo de usted con un atento y cordial saludo.

Marco Antonio González Pastora
Secretario Ejecutivo CCAD
Director General de Medio Ambiente SG-SICA



Honduras



Unión Europea



El Salvador



**Programa Binacional de Desarrollo Fronterizo
Honduras - El Salvador (ACR/TB-2000/2052)**

TG-CD-417-05

Tegucigalpa, 23 de noviembre de 2005

Sr. Andrés Marchant
Representante del Banco Interamericano
de Desarrollo en Honduras-BID
Presente

Estimado Señor Marchant:

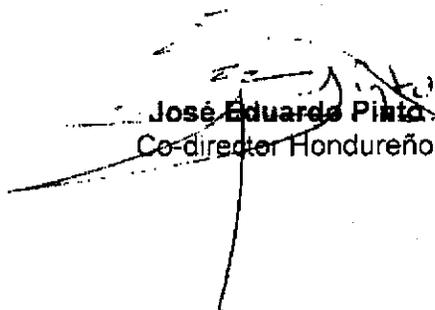
En nombre del Programa de Desarrollo Binacional nos complace expresarles nuestro respaldo, a nivel de consulta y coordinación, a la ejecución del Proyecto "Manejo Integrado del Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo".

El Programa Binacional, en conjunto con 12 organizaciones (incluyendo dos mancomunidades locales) ha iniciado la ejecución de actividades en el marco del Núcleo de Desarrollo Local 5 "Desarrollo Agroecoturístico en Ocotepeque y Chalatenango", cuyo territorio de trabajo se ubica justamente en la zona de confluencia fronteriza entre el Nor-occidente del Departamento de Chalatenango (El Salvador) y el Sur del Departamento de Ocotepeque, (Honduras), correspondiente en parte con la Región del Trifinio y la cuenca alta del Río Lempa.

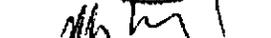
En discusiones con el personal a cargo de la preparación del Proyecto Manejo del Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo, hemos identificado coincidencias en diferentes enfoques y actividades entre el mismo Núcleo 5 y el proyecto mencionado. Las potenciales sinergias entre las dos iniciativas podrán orientarse a la promoción de oportunidades para generar ingresos para las comunidades locales a partir de acciones de desarrollo agro-ecoturístico, incluyendo el fomento a la producción agrícola y artesanal bajo enfoques de sostenibilidad ambiental, económica y socio-cultural; así como al fortalecimiento de las organizaciones comunitarias y municipales.

Reiteramos entonces, nuestra disponibilidad en coordinar la ejecución de actividades de mutuo interés, deseándoles éxito en la solicitud de financiamiento ante el GEF.

Atentamente,


José Eduardo Pinto
Co-director Hondureño




Marco Alajmo
Co-director Europeo


Carlos Rafael Huevo
Co-director Salvadoreño

cc: Ricardo Cardona, Director Ejecutivo Nacional, Comisión Trinacional del Plan Trifinio.



MINISTERIO DE AGRICULTURA Y GANADERIA
DIRECCIÓN GENERAL DE ORDENAMIENTO FORESTAL, CUENCAS Y RIEGO (DGFCR)
PROYECTO "DESARROLLO RURAL SOSTENIBLE DE ZONAS DE FRAGILIDAD ECOLÓGICA EN LA REGIÓN DEL TRIFINIO" (PRODERT)



Metapán, 14 de noviembre de 2005

MAG/PRODERT/769.05

Señor
Philippe Dewez
Representante Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo
Presente

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Estimado Señor Dewez:

Es de nuestro conocimiento que la Comisión Trinacional del Plan Trifinio (CTPT) viene desarrollando un proceso de gestión con el apoyo del Banco Interamericano de Desarrollo (BID), como Agencia Ejecutora del Fondo para el Medio Ambiente Mundial (*Global Environmental Facility - GEF*), para la formulación del "Plan de Manejo Integrado del Área Protegida Trinacional Montecristo" y del "Proyecto Manejo Integrado del Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo"; así como el acompañamiento en la gestión de financiamiento del mismo Proyecto ante el GEF.

Queremos expresar que conocemos el Proyecto y que vamos a trabajar buscando sinergias en las áreas de: Desarrollo de actividades productivas; agrícolas, producción animal, producción forestal, apoyo a microempresas y artesanía rural; Capacitación y organización; Infraestructura productiva y Servicios de apoyo a la producción, como: asistencia técnica, crédito y apoyo a la comercialización.

Además consideramos que el proyecto es coincidente con nuestros objetivos de sostenibilidad ecológica y productiva de la región del Trifinio, por lo que estamos seguros que nuestras inversiones en el área de amortiguamiento apoyarán el establecimiento del Área Protegida Trinacional de Montecristo.

Sin otro particular, me suscribo con las muestras de mi consideración y estima-

Atentamente,


Adán Aguiluz Aguiluz
Coordinador Nacional



cc: Licenciada Miriam Hirezi, Directora Ejecutiva Nacional de El Salvador
Licenciada Mercedes Llort, Secretaria Ejecutiva Trinacional del Plan Trifinio.