

**UNDP-GEF Project Development Facility
"Block A" Request**

Part I: Eligibility

1. **Project Name:** Integrated Conservation of the Kamchatka Peninsula's Biological Diversity
2. **GEF Implementing Agency:** United Nations Development Programme
3. **Country in which the project is being implemented:** Russian Federation
4. **Country Eligibility:** Russia ratified the CBD in May of 1995
5. **GEF focal areas/and or cross-cutting issues:** Biodiversity
6. **Operational Program:** Coastal, Marine and Freshwater Ecosystems/Forest Ecosystems?

7. Project Linkage to national priorities, action plan, and programmes:

Kamchatka ranks near the top of any list of globally important northern temperate bioregions. The peninsula contains the greatest diversity of salmon, trout, and char on earth. All six species of Pacific salmon (one third of the world's total population) spawn in Kamchatka rivers. This diversity and abundance of fish fauna supports the world's largest population of brown bears and more than 50% of the world's remaining Stellar sea eagles (the world's largest eagle). Huge populations of marine mammals also live along the coastline of the peninsula and surrounding islands.

The Government of Russia has identified Kamchatka's biodiversity as a top priority for conservation action in its national biodiversity action plan. Integrated watershed management and protected area strengthening figure at the top of those priorities. The joint Russia-American (Gore-Chernomyrdin) effort to identify sustainable development possibilities identified Kamchatka as a prime spot for the development of integrated conservation and development partnerships. Other international publications recognize the global significance of Kamchatka's biological resources. UNESCO's World Heritage programme has approved designation of the "Volcanoes of Kamchatka" as a World Heritage site. The World Heritage Bureau is considering expanding this designation to cover additional critical terrestrial and marine areas. Three of Kamchatka's more valuable wetlands have been designated Ramsar sites. Kamchatka is one of the priority areas identified under WWF's Global 200 initiative.

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

Alexander Solovianov, Deputy Chairman for the State Committee on Environmental Protection
(see Annex 1 for endorsement letter)

9. Project Rationale and Objectives:

Kamchatka is one of the most remote places in the Russian Republic. Its economy, still in the early stages of free market development, is almost totally reliant upon natural resources, predominantly the salmon fishery. Gold, some natural resource based tourism (fishing, hunting), and potentially oil. Rapid development of the fisheries, mining, and sport hunting sectors, has been underway since Russia opened its doors to outside investment. The globally significant biodiversity of the Kamchatka peninsula is threatened by the lack of a conservation-based approach to the development

of these sectors, short-term non-sustainable approaches to resource extraction, and the lack of effective management for most of the protected areas and priority habitats.

The incremental cost-based project will assist in conserving and sustainably managing Kamchatka's globally significant biological diversity following the principles of integrated conservation and development. The importance of Kamchatka's terrestrial biodiversity is well documented. The highly productive marine/aquatic environment is also critically important and, through the salmon stocks, provides the foundation for much of the region's biodiversity. However, it is these very aquatic ecosystems that are under threat from over-exploitation of natural resources. Recognizing this, particular attention will be given to developing an integrated, aquatic-marine management approach to address the threats to biodiversity conservation and remove the root causes. The project concept envisions: 1) strengthening the law and policy arena in the two administrative regions that comprise the Kamchatka peninsula; 2) strengthening the management of priority protected areas and habitats of the peninsula; 3) removing knowledge-based, technological, and financial barriers to sustainable development of biodiversity resources (see #11 for specifics).

10. Expected Outcome:

A viable, integrated management and sustainable development programme for Kamchatka's biodiversity resources. This will take the quantifiable form of: 1) a strengthened law and policy framework; 2) a strengthened system of priority protected areas and habitats; 3) the removal of barriers to conservation-based development by the establishment of a long-term funding mechanism and the introduction of new conceptual and technological tools for conservation-based development in Kamchatka.

11. Planned Activities to Achieve Outcomes:

Law and Policy Development

- training, capacity building, and assistance to legislative development.

Management of Strengthened Protected Areas

- development and implementation of innovative management plans for priority protected areas and habitats; targeted research to identify priority habitats (e.g. spawning, rookeries) and define baseline situation for biodiversity management and monitoring; demarcation; training.

Removal of Barriers to Conservation-based Development:

- training/capacity building; development and demonstration of sustainable-use methodologies in the field; development and funding of long-term funding mechanism; development of innovative resource management programme; development of eco-tourism programme; development of innovative watershed management approach to natural resource management in Kamchatka; development of public and stakeholder awareness programmes linking the conservation of biodiversity with sustainable development; development of overall, long-term strategy for data collection, utilization and monitoring programmes.

12. Stakeholders involved in Project:

Government: Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Natural Resources, State Committee for Ecology, Moscow State University, State Committee for Northern Development, Kamchatka Regional Committee for Nature Protection, Kamchatka Committee for the Environment, Kamchatka Parks Service, Koryaksky Autonomous Region officials,
NGO: WWF, IUCN, Wildlife Conservation Society, Wild Salmon Center, PERC, Greenpeace.
Private Sector: the KAMC-OLD consortium, the Fishing industry, the Tourism industry

Part II: Information on Block A PDF Activities

13. Activities to be Funded by GEF:

- Prepare for and organize stakeholder consultation in Kamchatka – information gathering, planning.
- Conduct stakeholder consultations (including co-funders such as donor representatives, the oil, tourism, and fishing industries), to finalize agreement on basic approach for conservation action in Kamchatka.
- Draft Block B proposal for development of full project document

14. Expected Outputs and Completion Dates:

The expected outcome of this Block A is a far more detailed proposal for Block B funding to finalize a full project proposal for GEF and co-financing support for biodiversity conservation in Kamchatka.

More specifically:

- preparatory consultations with federal and regional administration and local stakeholders in Kamchatka (completed February 1998)
- Block A consultation/agreement on priority components of Block B/preliminary analysis of Incremental Cost Analysis (completed March 1998)
- Draft Block B proposal for development of full project document (approved April 1998)

15. Other Possible Contributors/Donors and Amounts

UNDP-Russia, Government of Russia

not enough, repairs needed water in bush.

16. Total budget and information on how costs will be met.

	<u>GEF</u>	<u>Co-funding *</u>
• Review of national and local policies and plans for Kamchatka and related sectors/Preparation of consultation	2,000	
• Stakeholder consultations (incl. co-funders)	15,000	10,000
Transportation/Mtng Facilities	11,000	
Block B presentation and review	4,000	
• Coordination and preparation of Block B proposal	5,000	
Total Request to GEF:	22,000	

*UNDP-Russia, Government of Russia (in-kind transportation costs)

16. Project Identification Number:

17. LA Contact Person:

David Vousden, UNDP-GEF, Regional Bureau for Europe and the CIS. Tel: 212-906-6402

18. Project Linkage to LA's programme(s):

UNDP-Russia was established in late 1997 and is in the process of developing its Country Cooperation Framework. Working with UNDP-GEF, the Russia office has made Kamchatka one of UNDP-Russia's priority areas for facilitating sustainable development. A UNDP sub-field office has recently been established in Kamchatka in order to provide direct support to sustainable development initiatives in the region.

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Постоянное Представительство
Российской Федерации
при
Организации Объединенных
Наций



Permanent Mission
of the Russian Federation
to the United Nations

136 East 67 Street
New York N.Y. 10021

New York, July 21, 1997

Dear Mr. Kruidesink,

I am pleased to inform you that the State Committee of the Russian Federation on Environment Protection is interested in UNDP assistance in implementing projects on rational biodiversity management in the Russian regions which are important for global biodiversity. The Committee believes that UNDP being a key GEF partner could play a catalitic role in developing international cooperation of Russia in the field of environment protection.

The State Committee of the Russian Federation on Environment Protection informed us that it is ready to provide necessary assistance to UNDP expert mission which could visit Moscow, Magadan and Kamchatka this August.

Please accept, Mr. Kruidesink, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Sincerely,

Nikolai V. Tchoulkov
Deputy Permanent Representative

*16 Aug 21/97
-> PS Let's attend the draft.
D. Tchoulkov on 16/8/97.*

Mr. Anton Kruidesink,
Regional Director for Europe and the CIS
UNDP,
New York