

## A proposal for Accessing GEF Funds for Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) for the Government of Samoa

*Background:*

Samoa is a partner to the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity. The Convention entered into force, at a global level on 29 December 1993, while Samoa ratified the Convention on 9 February 1994. Therefore, it is obligatory in our part to implement the provision and decision taken by the Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity.

The Articles 17 and 18 of the Convention clearly specify the role of the Clearing-House Mechanism to promote the technical and scientific cooperation. Samoa has recently implemented a project carrying the activities associated with the implementation of Article 6b with support from an Enabling Activity project (SAM/98/G31) entitled "Preparation of National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and Preparation of First National Report to the Fourth Session of the Conference of Parties of the Convention on Biological Diversity." However, Samoa's CHM focal point, the *Director of the Division of Environment and Conservation*, is currently unable to participate in the CHM due to the lack of adequate computer equipment, non-internet access and capacity. Therefore, Samoa is simply requesting for added support for basic implementation of the CHM provision.

*Goal:*

The ultimate goal of this project is to strengthen the capacity of the National Clearing House Mechanism.

*Objective:*

- 1) To facilitate exchange of information;
- 2) and, To facilitate scientific and technical cooperation.

*Input*

	Estimated Cost Norm. (US \$)	Actual Proposed (US\$)
<b>Option A: Direct Assistance</b>		
Hardware (PC of appropriate configuration)	0-4,000	4,000
Software (Internet browsers and required software)	0-1,000	1,000
Modem	0-500	500
Recurrent Access Costs to the Internet service provider including storing of national CHM website on server <small>(recurrent costs to end of CHM pilot phase 1998)</small>	0- 3,800	3,800
Technician Set-up Fees	500-700	700
Internet and E-mail training	1,000- 4,000	4,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,500- 14,000</b>	<b>14,000</b>

*Output:*

- 1) The Implementation of the conventional shall benefit from the main database of the CHM;
- 2) The highway technology of data communication used to exchange publicly available information will secure data quality and regular updating;
- 3) Strengthening existing biological database in particular with flora, fauna and microorganisms;
- 4) And, To promote the application of new technology in data management.

# Technology Evaluation

(to be completed by the CHM Focal Point and returned to the CBD Secretariat)

CHM Focal Point: DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENT & CONSERVATION  
 Organization: DEPARTMENT OF LANDS, SURVEYS & ENVIRONMENT  
 Country: SAMOA

Please refer to your computer support staff, if necessary, for accurate and current information

1) Do you have access to a Personal Computer?  Yes  Yes, but limited access  No

Which platform do you use?  IBM/Compatible  Macintosh

Do you have an E-mail address?  Yes  No

If yes, please print E-mail address in full: envdise @ samoa.net

If you answered affirmatively to the first question, please complete the following:

2) Do you have computer technology support in your organization?  Yes  No

If so: Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ fax: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### 3) INTERNET CONNECTIVITY

Please describe your connectivity to the Internet.

Is it: Full Internet Access?  Yes  Limited  No Connectivity

=> If yes: Do you have access to the World Wide Web?  Yes  No  
 If so: Which browser:- Full Graphics (e.g. Netscape)  or Text (e.g. lynx, gopher)

=> Do you have a site on the Internet?  Yes  No

If so please indicate your URL address: \_\_\_\_\_

### 4) PLEASE DESCRIBE YOUR FAMILIARITY WITH THE FOLLOWING:-

Electronic mail (sending/receiving):  Very good  Limited  No Experience  
 Internet browsing:  Very good  Limited  No Experience  
 PC Applications: (word processing, etc):  Very good  Limited  No Experience



Government of Samoa  
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
Apia - Samoa

Your Ref: fa 6/1/16

10 March, 1999

Please address all  
correspondence to  
Secretary for Foreign Affairs

The Resident Representative,  
UNDP,  
Matautu.

Dear Sir,

Clearing House Mechanism under the Convention on Biological Diversity

The Government of Samoa has granted endorsement to the Division of Environment and Conservation to take up the implementing role for the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) Programme.

Accordingly, Government wishes to benefit from the CHM through access to global exchange of information on biological conservation including procurement of computer hardware, software and training for the implementation of the Stocktaking and Inventory assessment of our National Biological Strategy Action Plan (NBSAP).

We understand that the CHM module will be an add on activity to the NBSAP given that Samoa already has an approved Biodiversity Enabling Activity Project.

In view of the above, please find attached herewith for onforwarding to the CBD Secretariat the Technical Evaluation Form and CHM Proposal.

We thank you for your assistance in this matter and look forward to hearing from you in due course on the outcome of DEC's request.

Yours faithfully,

Sharon G. Potoi-Aiafi  
for: Acting Secretary for Foreign Affairs

attach.

UNDP
FILE NO: P20 301 602
FOR ACTION: [Signature]
FOR INFORMATION:
DATE RECEIVED: 10 MAR 1999

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