

**GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY
ENABLING ACTIVITY PROPOSAL**

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| COUNTRY: | Senegal |
| PROJECT: | National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and Report to COP |
| GEF FOCAL AREA: | Biodiversity |
| COUNTRY ELIGIBILITY: | Convention Ratified on 14 June 1994 |
| GEF FINANCING: | US \$205,200 |
| GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION: | In kind |
| GEF IMPLEMENTATION AGENCY: | UNDP |
| NATIONAL EXECUTING AGENCY: | Government of Senegal, Ministry of the Environment and Nature Protection (MEPN) |
| GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT: | None Designated |
| CONVENTION ON BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY FOCAL POINT: | Ministry of the Environment and Nature Protection |
| ESTIMATED STARTING DATE: | February 1997 |
| PROJECT DURATION: | 12 Months |

Background

Senegal covers an area of 196,722 km² and belongs to the Sahel region of west Africa. Its population size was 7,913,000 in 1993 with a 2.9% rate of annual increase. Senegal is surrounded in the North by Mauritania, in the East by Mali, in the South by Guinea and Guinea Bissau, and in the West by the Atlantic Ocean. Senegal circumscribes the Gambia. Senegal is a flat country, mainly of vast sandy plains. Its altitude varies around 40 m above sea level, and its highest peak is at 400m in the Fouta Djallon in the South-West. The country is administratively subdivided into 10 regions.

The biogeography of Senegal is predominantly of Sudanian affinities, but there are two transitional zones. In the south and west, Senegal has a zone of transition between the Guineo-Congolian and Sudanian biomes; and in the north the transition zone is between the Sudanian and the Sahelian biomes. The vegetation of Senegal is hence predominantly Sudanian woodland dominated by *Acacia*. However, in the south and west, there are some patches of evergreen forest and grasslands.

The north is characterized by dry *Acacia* woodland, and its 700km of coastline is mainly covered with mangroves.

Over the past twenty years, Senegal has suffered from frequent droughts, and its rainfall has been reduced. The months of August and September receive as much as 60% of the annual rainfall. Out of an annual total of 100 billion of m³ of rainfall, only a tiny fraction of 0.6% is stored as ground water (2 million cubic meters), the remainder is readily evaporated or wasted as runoff to the ocean. There are 7 billion cubic meters of usable surface water per year, and most of it comes from the Senegal River.

Senegal has developed a system of protected areas and national parks, which are overseen by the Ministry of Environment and Nature Protection (MEPN). Also the Ministry of Animal Resources oversees fisheries management and conservation. Senegal's most important sites for biodiversity conservation are the wetland and mangroves of the coastline (IUCN 1992). To name a few, there are several small reserves in the area, including the Djoudj National and the Langue de Barbarie National Parks. Also the delta of the Senegal River in the north of the country is of great conservation importance as it includes floodplains, intertidal flats, and sand dunes. Patches of tropical rainforests are protected in the Basse-Casamance National Park. However, poaching poses serious problems across the country.

Senegal had an annual per capita income of \$510 in 1987, but this figure has been dropping steadily. It was estimated at \$493 in 1994. Its economy depends on offshore fishing, livestock rearing, and agriculture, but climatic disturbances and desertification are playing against economic prosperity. Fisheries in the Atlantic Ocean are the only stable resources that are not directly impacted by the frequent droughts (IUCN 1990).

The extent and trends of biodiversity loss are little known in Senegal. However desertification and several droughts are negatively impacting the biodiversity of the country. For most plants and animals' assemblages there is little data on species' diversity. However the country's geographical position along the coast of the Atlantic Ocean, provides favorable climatic influences of tradewinds and monsoon, which confer it with sharply contrasted habitats (arid in the north; and humid in the south). These contrasted habitats predict higher biological diversity for Senegal than for most Sahelian countries. Out of 2,100 known plant species, 26 are believed to be endemic to Senegal. Animal life is less diverse, and it is heavily impacted by agriculture and poaching. There are 16 species of antelopes, 11 of primates, 3 species of crocodiles, 5 species of marine turtles. Elephant numbers have been seriously reduced to 50, which are surviving in Niokolo Koba National Park. Senegal is the world's largest exporter of birds, particularly parrots. The impact of this trade on biodiversity is not yet clear, but it is believed to be serious. One of the major concerns over biodiversity conservation is the dependence on fragmented forest patches that contain populations of threatened species that are too small in numbers to still be viable (IUCN 1990).

Soon after independence in 1960, Senegal attempted to limit consumptive use of the remnant forest patches by enacting drastic laws (Law n° 64-46, dated June 1964), but these have not succeeded, mainly because local communities were not consulted (MEPN 1996). There are ongoing pressures to allocate the remnant and fragmented forest patches for consumptive use by the local communities (World Bank 1993). Also more recent legislation (Law n° 72-25 of 19 April 1987 as Code of Fishing ; Law n° 86-04 of 24 January 1986 as Code of Hunting and Fauna Preservation; Law n° 72-25 of 19 April 1972 as Code for Rural Communities' Use of

Natural Resources, etc.) to regulate natural resources' use have failed to incorporate biodiversity concerns. Following the UNCED Conference (Rio 1992), Senegal is putting together a new legal and institutional framework to adequately address and respond to the situation and to honor international conventions and treaties that it has ratified, including the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) and the treaty on climate change. In this impetus, the Government of Senegal is aware that there is no way to bring about development in the country without sustainably using and conserving its biological resources. Hence it has put together a consultative framework to discuss options and put in place national strategies. CONSERE, the *Conseil Supérieur des Ressources Naturelles et de l'Environnement*, constitutes a multi-agencies consultative body, which is about to complete a National Environment Action Plan (NEAP) process that started in 1994.

During the NEAP process, CONSERE has identified biodiversity stocktaking and the definition of a Biodiversity Strategy and Plan of Action (BSAP) to be one of the top priorities. Hence, on 27 June 1996, the Government of Senegal formulated a request to UNDP to assist the country and CONSERE to prepare a BSAP for Senegal.

Project Objectives and Description

The project will help CONSERE, relevant government ministries, NGOs, local communities and research institutions, educational institutions such as the ISE, *Institut des Sciences de l'Environnement*, of the Université Cheikh Anta Diop of Dakar, to formulate a National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (BSAP) and country report to the Conference of Parties (COP). The BSAP will determine the current status of, pressures on, options and priority actions to ensure conservation and sustainable use of the country's biodiversity. The enabling activity will be conducted to allow the BSAP to complement and to be integrated within existing frameworks, particularly the NEAP. The BSAP process will involve representatives from different sectors of the society, and it will include the organization of two national workshops and 10 regional workshops.

During the first month of the project, CONSERE board, which will play the role of the project steering committee, will meet and bring together representatives of the government, regional entities, the private sector, NGOs, tribal leaders and local communities. The steering committee will create and supervise the activities of an interagency planning team, which will compile and evaluate existing data on biodiversity and review the WRI/IUCN/UNEP (1995) "Guidelines for the Preparation of National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans." The planning team will meet and discuss strategies for workshops and public involvement during BSAP preparation to ensure transparency and broad based participation. Throughout the BSAP process, the planning team will be assisted by one lead national consultant, several national consultants and short term consultants. An international consultant experienced in biodiversity planning and public participation will also assist the BSAP process, particularly in running familiarization sessions for the planning team. The lead national consultant will coordinate and facilitate project activities. The national consultants will help to run the national workshops, and the short term consultants will run regional workshops.

Within the first three months the planning team will be established, and national consultants will search for and synthesize available biodiversity data. The result of this stocktaking and inventory

of information will be presented during the fourth month of the project at the first national workshop, which will launch the consultative and participatory process toward the formulation of a BSAP. In conjunction with the first national workshop, the international consultant and the lead national consultant will first familiarize during five days the planning team, the national consultants and the short term national consultants in biodiversity planning and participatory methods. This will be followed by the organization of 10 regional workshops to ensure public participation and solicit more input from local communities and among biodiversity stakeholders. From the 5th to the 8th month of the project, short term consultants will help run the 10 regional workshops. After the regional workshops, with the help of national consultants and short term consultants, the planning team will produce a preliminary BSAP, which will be reviewed for further input at the second national workshop. The last 2 months of the project will include preparation and adoption of both the BSAP and the Country Report to COP. Dissemination of the BSAP will follow after its adoption by CONSERE and the Government of Senegal. Because the First Country Report will not be available until January 1998, in May 1997 the planning team will draft an interim report that the Government of Senegal will present at the COP meeting of June 1997.

Coverage Without Duplication

The BSAP will allow better linkages between government ministries and integrate biodiversity conservation with existing legislation such as the Codes of Fishing, Hunting, and Natural Resource Use, and NEAP recommendations. The BSAP will be based on existing data (e.g. IUCN 1990, World Bank 1993, Hynes 1995). Complementary information not available in the country will be repatriated from abroad (France). Skills and expertise in biodiversity resources, inventory, collection and management available in Senegalese Universities and Research Institutions will contribute to the BSAP, and there will be no duplication of activities with the NEAP process, as they will all be coordinated by CONSERE.

Time Plan and Sequencing

Activities will begin in February 1997 and proceed for 12 months ending in January 1998. An interim country report will be prepared for submission to the COP by 30 June 1997.

| Activity/ Month | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|----|----|----|
| Establishment of a steering committee and planning team | x | | | | | | | | | | | |
| Stocktaking and inventory of information | | x | x | | | | | | | | | |
| Training (familiarization) of planning team | | | | x | | | | | | | | |
| First national workshop | | | | x | | | | | | | | |
| Identification and analysis of options, regional workshops | | | | | x | x | x | x | | | | |
| Preparation of draft BSAP, second national workshop | | | | | | | | | x | x | | |
| Finalization of BSAP, dissemination | | | | | | | | | | | x | x |
| Preparation of interim report and submission to COP | | | | x | x | | | | | | | |
| Preparation of Country Report | | | | | | | | | | | x | x |

Best Practice

The project will follow methodology recommended in the "Guide to the Convention on Biological diversity" (IUCN, 1994) and the WRI/IUCN/UNEP's (Miller and Lanou 1995) "Guidelines for Preparing National Biodiversity Strategies and Action Plans". Assessment of existing information will be carried out largely by the planning team with the help of a lead national consultant and other national consultants for different biodiversity themes.

The BSAP will build on experience gained and existing data collected through public and international research institutions, NGO projects and other donor financed initiatives in Senegal. These include the FAO's village level forestry project in the Senegal River basin as well as initiatives by the UNDP project for the rehabilitation of the Baies of Dakar, GTZ's experiments in agriculture, forestry, and livestock management to finding ways for combating desertification in the north of the country, WWF conservation endeavors, and initiatives from the Government of the Netherlands for forestry planning and making an environmental profile of Senegal. During the BSAP process, the problem of inadequate legislation for a sustainable use of natural resources will be discussed among various interest groups and stakeholders at national and regional workshops; and measures for participatory approaches will be devised.

Project Financing(in US \$)

| | Product | Process | Total |
|--|---------------|----------------|----------------|
| <i>Stocktaking and Inventory of Existing Information</i> | <i>11,000</i> | | <i>11,000</i> |
| - national consultants | 7,000 | | 7,000 |
| - documentation, misc. | 4,000 | | 4,000 |
| Identification and Analysis of Options | 17,500 | 92,500 | 110,000 |
| - national consultants | 8,000 | 14,000 | 22,000 |
| - international consultant | 6,500 | 8,500 | 15,000 |
| - first national workshop | | 17,000 | 17,000 |
| - training (instruction) | | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| - regional workshops (10) | | 50,000 | 50,000 |
| - travel, misc. | 3,000 | | 3,000 |
| Preparation of Strategy and Action Plan | 17,500 | 41,000 | 58,500 |
| - national consultants | 8,500 | 10,500 | 19,000 |
| - international consultant | 6,000 | 12,000 | 18,000 |
| - second national workshop | | 16,000 | 16,000 |
| - travel, misc. | 3,000 | | 3,000 |
| - dissemination | | 2,500 | 2,500 |
| First National Report | 5,000 | 5,500 | 10,500 |
| - preparation of interim report | 2,500 | | 2,500 |
| - preparation & publication of First Country Report | 2,500 | 2,500 | 5,000 |
| - promotion | | 3,000 | 3,000 |
| <i>Coordination and Management Costs (8%)</i> | <i>4,080</i> | <i>11,120</i> | <i>15,200</i> |
| Total for Enabling Activity | 55,080 | 150,120 | 205,200 |

Deviations from Criteria and Norms

This proposal does not deviate from the criteria and norms for enabling activities.

Institutional Framework and Project Implementation

Project development will be overseen by a steering committee composed of representatives from the MEPN, CONSERE, ISE, the Ministry of Fisheries and Animal Resources, the Forest Service, NGOs, scientists researchers, representatives from local communities and tribal leaders, and other stakeholder groups. Under supervision of the steering committee a multi sectoral planning team will be established to undertake the actual work of the enabling activity. The planning team will conduct two broad based and participatory national workshops, 10 regional workshops, and carry out a range of stocktaking, analyzing and planning activities. The planning team will be assisted by a lead national consultant, national consultants and an international consultant who will impart training.

Activity Matrix

| Enabling Activity Commitment | Output | Capacity Building | | Public Participation | Comments |
|---|---------------------|-------------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|
| | Planning, Execution | Institutional Strength. | Training | | |
| <i>Stocktaking and Assessment, based on Existing Information</i> | | | | | |
| - biodiversity and biological resources | x | | | | 1,3 |
| - cross-sectoral issues | x | | | | 1,3 |
| - policy and regulatory framework | x (Hynes 1995) | | | | 2,3 |
| - institutional and human capacity | x | | | | 3 |
| - analysis of root causes of BD loss | x | | | | 3 |
| - technologies for conservation and sustainable use | x | | | | 3 |
| - activities with adverse impacts | x | | | | 3 |
| - existing measures and programs | x | | | | 3 |
| - preliminary statement of objectives | x (HYNES 1995) | | | | 2,3 |
| - identification of gaps | x | | | | 3 |
| - assessment of existing needs | x | | | | 3 |
| <i>Identification and Analysis of Options to Meet the Objectives of the CBD</i> | | | | | |
| - strategies for conservation | x (NEAP, IUCN 1992) | x | x | x | 4 |
| - strategies for sustainable use | x (NEAP) | x | x | x | 4 |
| - strategies for benefit sharing | x | x | x | x | 4 |
| <i>Planning and Preparation of a Strategy and Plan</i> | | | | | |
| - national strategy | x | x | x | x | |
| - national action plan | x | x | x | x | |
| <i>Preparation of first National Report</i> | | | | | |
| - interim report | x | | | | |
| - first national report | x | | | x | |

Footnotes to Activity Matrix:

1. Significant information on biodiversity and cross sectoral issues exists as a result of projects by FAO, UNDP, GTZ, the Government of the Netherlands, the French ORSTOM, and the World Bank. Needs and gaps identified in part by these projects have led to the need to coordinate the efforts in a NEAP process, and a coordinating body CONSERE is now operational. The BSAP stocktaking will build on the base of information which exists as a result of these initiatives. However, existing information needs to be reorganized to fit into BSAP process.
2. A 3 day colloquium on natural resources identified some policy and preliminary statement of objectives for natural resources' management (Hynes 1995). However, objectives for the national biodiversity strategy will need to be elaborated during this project.
3. To avoid potential duplication of stocktaking efforts, the NEAP and the BSAP stocktaking and assessment processes will be coordinated by the CONSERE, which is intending to establish a common database of information at the ISE, *the Institut des Sciences de l'Environnement*.
4. NEAP devised strategies will be coordinated with strategies and measures to be developed under the BSAP, to achieve complementarity.

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Le 9 Décembre 1996

025/678/ODB/mf

*L'Ambassadeur du Sénégal
Représentant Permanent auprès
de l'O.N.U.*

A Dr John HOUGH
Coordinateur for Biodiversity and
International Waters UNDP-GEF,
Regional Bureau for Africa

Monsieur le Coordonnateur,

J'ai bien reçu, avec le document qui l'accompagne, la lettre du 6 décembre 1996 que vous m'avez adressée au sujet du projet concernant la Stratégie nationale du Sénégal pour la biodiversité et de la préparation du premier rapport du Sénégal à la Conférence des Parties à la Convention sur la Biodiversité.

Comme suite, j'ai le plaisir de vous confirmer, par la présente lettre, la soumission de ce projet comme une des priorités du Sénégal dans le domaine de l'environnement et du développement durable.

En vous remerciant vivement de l'intérêt que le PNUD et le GEF accordent ainsi à mon pays, je vous serais reconnaissant de toute information que vous voudriez bien me faire parvenir concernant l'évolution de ce dossier.

Veillez croire, Monsieur le Coordonnateur, à l'assurance de ma haute considération./-