

Global Environment Facility**Enabling Activity Proposal Add-on Component**

Country: Solomon Islands

Project title: Strengthening the National Clearing House Mechanism Focal Point for Participation in the Pilot Phase of the CHM of the CBD

GEF Focal Area: Biodiversity

Country Eligibility: Ratified the CBD

GEF Financing Requested: US\$ 8,580

GEF Implementing Agency: UNEP

National Implementing Agency: Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation

National CHM Focal Point Designated: Yes, Mr. Moses Biliki, Director of Environment and Conservation

Project Duration: Up to end of the pilot phase of the CHM of the CBD (end of 1998)

Background/Context:

In line with Decisions II/7 and II/17 of the second meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the CBD, the Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation of the Solomon Islands is implementing a GEF-funded project for the preparation of a national biodiversity strategy, action plan and the first national report to the CBD (BSAP).

Facilitating capacity-building in relation to the operation of the Clearing House Mechanism (CHM) of the CBD in developing country Parties is one of the enabling activity components stipulated in the GEF Operational Criteria for Biodiversity Enabling Activities pursuant to Decisions II/3 and III/4 of the COP.

This proposal, requested as an add-on component to the BSAP enabling activity, will permit the Solomon Islands to participate in the pilot phase of the CHM and to fulfill the requirements of Decisions I/3, II/3 and III/4 of the COP.

The requested budget for this activity is shown in the following table:

**Budget for the Clearing House Mechanism Add-on Component of
Enabling Activity proposal:**

Solomon Islands* (US\$)

Item	GEF Estimated Cost Norm (US\$)	Country Actual Proposed (US\$)
- Hardware (PC of appropriate configuration)	0-4,000	3,200
- Software (Internet browsers and required software)	0-1,000	930
- Modem	0-500	250
- Recurrent Access Costs to Internet Service Provider (up to end of CHM Pilot Phase 1998)	0-3,800	2,000
- Technician Set-Up Fees	500-700	500
- Internet and E-mail Training for CHM Focal Point **	1,000-4,000	1,700
Total	1,500-14,000	8,580

* Group I country, Option A:

Solomon Islands has the required telecommunications infrastructure and Internet connectivity. It has designated a Focal Point for the CHM, i.e. Mr. Moses Biliki, Director of Environment and Conservation, Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation, who will be directly responsible for the operations of the CHM of the CBD.

The Ministry of Forests, Environment and Conservation is also the national implementing agency for the "National Biodiversity Strategy, Action Plan and First National Report to the CBD" project endorsed by the GEF in August 1996.

** Training for the CHM Focal Point will be carried out under an agreement with the suppliers of the hardware/software that will be purchased under the project.