

Thank you for comments on Swaziland's EA Add-on proposal dated 14 may. The proposal has been revised as follows:

1. Swaziland has indeed submitted its First National Report to the CBD and it is available on the CBD website. The proposal intended to convey that had Swaziland also sent the GEF a copy of its First National Report.
2. The CHM request has been amended accordingly and more details provided. It is the view of the Government of Swaziland that the proposed activities constitute a 'Country Driven CHM Project' as defined by the GEF.
3. The GEFs concerns regarding Second National Report process have been addressed.
4. The budget item for the project coordinator has been removed.
5. Dr. Jameson DO. Vilakati is indeed the GEF Operational Focal Point and Dr. Stephen Zuke is the CHM Focal Point. The CBD was informed of this on 16 December 1999. We request that the GEF website be updated to reflect the correct GEF Operational Focal Point. We will inform the CBD Secretariat separately regarding the CHM Focal Point.

We request the proposal be approved at the earliest possible.

With best regards,

PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDING OF A BIODIVERSITY ENABLING ACTIVITY

COUNTRY NAME: SWAZILAND

PROJECT TITLE: ASSESSMENT OF CAPACITY BUILDING NEEDS, COMPLETION OF THE CHM PROCESS AND CONSULTATIONS FOR THE 2ND NATIONAL REPORT TO THE CBD COP

GEF FINANCING: US\$ 207,000

GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION (In Kind)

Project Management	US\$ 10,000
Biodiversity committee	US\$ 8,000
Office Space, Equipment	US\$ 25,000
Transportation	US\$ 30,000
MOAC, UNIVERSITY, FAGR	<u>US\$ 27,000</u>
TOTAL	US\$ 100,000

ESTIMATED TOTAL BUDGET: US\$ 307,000

GEF IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: UNDP

NATIONAL EXECUTING AGENCY: SWAZILAND ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITY
(SEA)

GEF OPERATIONAL FOCAL POINT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (J.D. VILAKATI)

CBD OPERATIONS FOCAL POINT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR (J.D. VILAKATI)

CHM FOCAL POINT: SENIOR ENVIRONMENT OFFICER (S.M. ZUKE)

ESTIMATED STARTING DATE: August 2001

DURATION: ONE YEAR

EA STATUS

Swaziland started the preparatory process for the EA in 1997. The country received total funding of US\$169,560 for the preparation of the National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan and also for preparing the First National Report to the Conference of Parties. An additional US\$14,000 was requested and approved for the establishment of a Clearing House Mechanism.

The preparation of the National Strategy and Action Plan was completed in April 1999 and endorsed by the National Biodiversity Steering Committee. The BSAP report highlights the mandates of key institutions involved with the Management and use of Biodiversity resources in Swaziland. However due to time constraints it failed to analyse their capabilities in making the BSAP a reality.

It is the intention of this proposal to look critically into the capacity needs of these institutions and community organisations in implementing the NBSAP.

The closing balance for the NBSAP is US\$39 000, which has been allocated for publication of the document, awareness raising and public outreach, and communications/CHM.

The country is establishing a Clearing House Mechanism, which was initiated March 2000. Computer equipment and Internet and web design training has already been undertaken and the country is currently developing a Biodiversity Web page for Swaziland.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the additional funding are:

- i) To assess capacity building needs and defining country specific priorities on Biodiversity Management.
- ii) To complete the establishment of a Clearing House Mechanism for Biodiversity in Swaziland.
- iii) To undertake consultations towards the second national report to the Conference of the Parties to the CBD.

The Government of Swaziland and UNDP/GEF are satisfied this proposal conforms with the GEF Operational Criteria for Additional Financing of Biodiversity Enabling Activities.

Priorities for Assessing Capacity Building Needs

The current draft NBSAP has fallen short in its analysis of the strength and weakness of current institutions and human resources needed for the implementation of the NBSAP. However a cursory analysis does indicate poor institutional and legislative frameworks for coordinating the management of biodiversity resources. The report further highlights a limited expertise base for various skills in resource management and poor monitoring levels for implementation of programs and assessment of biodiversity resources.

The identification of national priorities for capacity building was done through the Biodiversity Programme Implementation Committee (BPIC). Government created the BPIC, which is a recommendation from the National Environmental Action Plan. The NEAP already has cabinet approval. Key BPIC members met in a working session with the UNDP GEF focal point (and programme officer) and with the national focal points for GEF, CHM and the CBD. This working group used the full draft of the NBSAP as the basic working document, especially the identified goals of the NBSAP. This was used to identify capacity building needs assessment priorities that fit within the February and October Guidelines for Additional Funding for Biodiversity Enabling Activities. The needs identified in this proposal came out of this process.

The Government of Swaziland and UNDP/GEF are satisfied that this proposal conforms fully with the GEF Operational Criteria for Additional Funding of Biodiversity Enabling Activities.

The Government of Swaziland will use the add-on funding proposed in this request to implement a participatory process to assess the capacity building needs for the following priorities: -

1. Implementation of general measures for in-situ and ex-situ conservation and sustainable use, including national plans, strategies and legislation (Priority a in Guidelines);
2. Initial assessment and monitoring programs, including taxonomy, accessible and up-to date biodiversity inventories and data management (Priority d);
3. Conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity important to agriculture (Priority e);
4. Design and approaches relevant to the implementation of incentive measures (Priority f);

Details of work to be done and outputs are provided in Table 1. As part of the above assessments, the following crosscutting objectives have also been identified:

- Prepare appropriate budgetary needs for implementing a capacity building program for implementing the NBSAP.
- Prepare a report for approval by Cabinet and subsequent sourcing of donor and local support to implement the capacity development plans.

Approach for Consensus Building

To ensure a wide participation and consensus building the biodiversity focal point shall utilise the multi-stakeholder National biodiversity Programme Implementation Committee (BPIC).

The BPIC shall be assisted by a National project coordinator (to be appointed under the add-on activity) to run workshops with key institution's and communities organisations.

The focal point shall utilise an appropriate number of local and international consultants to facilitate data gathering and consensus building for the different capacity building priorities. Eight technical working group workshops shall be conducted and one national workshop shall be held to reach a national consensus on issues.

The National project coordinator and the consultants shall prepare a final report outlining capacity building needs for each priority and budgetary requirements for implementing the program.

The activities to be undertaken are summarised in the table 1 below;

TABLE 1

PRIORITY	REASONS FOR PRIORIT	WORK TO BE DONE	EXPECTED PRODUCT	NOTES
1. Assess capacity building needs for implementation of general measures for in-situ and ex-situ conservation and sustainable use, including national plans, strategies and legislation	Poor coordination and implementation of Insitu and Exsitu biodiversity measures.	Review of Missions, mandates, roles and responsibilities of key institutions of key institutions. Assess capabilities of key institutions to implement biodiversity conservation measures. Identify manpower and financial resources needed to implement biodiversity conservation measures.	Clearly defined and mission statements roles and responsibilities of key institutions. Capacity Assessment Report Report on manpower and financial needs of key institutions.	Role and Responsibilities identified through SWOT analyses and workshops. SWOT Analysis document analysis Workshops
	Lack of appropriate legislation and institutional structure for overall Management use of biodiversity components.	Assess the institutional and human resource capacities for consolidating existing laws into an all encompassing biodiversity Management Act	Guidelines for developing a comprehensive biodiversity legislative framework and the resources needed to develop the all-encompassing biodiversity Act.	Workshops and mobilization regional and international experts to develop framework.
	Limited skills and resources to formulate methodologies to evaluate and mitigate the specific threats to components of biological diversity	Skills development needs assessment for developing methodologies Institutional Capacity assessment of related institutions for the provision of required skills	Skills Development Plan with budget. Institutional capacity Development Plan with budget	Consultancy and workshops Consultancy and workshops
2. Initial assessment and monitoring programs, including taxonomy	Lack of assessment and monitoring programs for biodiversity including taxonomy both within and outside protected areas.	Identification of capacity needs for the development of monitoring programs Assessment training needs in the fields of taxonomy, ecology with ecosystem analysis	Capacity development plan for monitoring of programmes. Training needs plan with	Consultancy and workshop Consultancy

	Absence of an effective National Biodiversity database to aid good decision making	Assessment training needs for biodiversity inventories. Assessment of resources needs for sustainable maintenance of data bases and local networking Assessment of capacity constraints such as resource ownership and access rights that do not allow sharing of benefits from Nature based Tourism	Training Needs Assessment report for database Managers. Sustainable resource mobilisation plan for maintaining up to date databases	Research consultancy linking to SADC - BSP and Workshops
3. Assess capacity building needs for design and approaches relevant to the implementation of incentive measures	Formulation of access and benefit sharing mechanisms	Assessment of the community's capacity to tap on the regional initiatives such as the Lubombo Spatial Development and the Maputo Biodiversity Corridors	Capacity Constraints Report and Capacity Building Plan	Consultancy and Workshops
			Strategic Plan for communities to tap on regional initiatives and sharing the benefits of regional biodiversity initiatives	Consultancies and Workshops
4. Assess capacity building needs for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity important to agriculture	No strategy exists for agro-biodiversity conservation in Swaziland	Comprehensive assessment of biodiversity resources important for agriculture and the capacity constraints for local farmers in the sustainable utilisation of such resources.	Capacity Assessment Report	Research work (Consultancy) Workshops

Country Driven CHM Project

Swaziland intends to use the CHM to use improve biodiversity data presentation and access nationally. A computer and appropriate software has already been purchased through the support provided by GEF earlier. A biodiversity web page for Swaziland is already being set up.

The Country Driven CHM project will be used to improve information sharing and access between centers of biodiversity information and stakeholders. Activities to be undertaken in order to complete the establishment of the Clearing House Mechanism include the following:

- i) Identification of key institutions, biodiversity databases and centers of knowledge.
- ii) Consultations to elaborate meta data standards and protocols for sharing information.
- iii) Completion of CHM website.
- iv) Networking of institutions and centers of information, e.g. University, Local SABONET centre local Farm Animals Genetic Resources centre (FANGR) etc.
- v) Awareness raising of the CHM and dissemination of materials.
- vi) Training in email, website development and maintenance and information and database management.

These activities were identified during the BSAP formulation process and further prioritised by the Biodiversity Implementation Committee. It is the view of the Government of Swaziland that these activities constitute a 'Country Driven Project' for the realization of the CHM and will improve our national capabilities to effectively share information and formulate management approaches to biodiversity conservation.

CONSULTATIONS FOR THE 2ND NATIONAL REPORT TO COP

The add-on-activity for Swaziland includes a provision of US\$17,000 to undertake consultations towards preparation of the 2nd National Report to COP in accordance with the format endorsed by COP decision V/19

The consultative process will consist of multi-stakeholder workshops, dissemination of questionnaires and meetings with key planning implementation agencies and partners for the BSAP.

The second national report will be undertaken in accordance with format and guidelines issued by the CBD Secretariat. The report shall contain a review of national priorities and actions and shall further report on progress made in implementing COP decisions. Though the Second National Report s deadline recommended by the COP is past, the Government of Swaziland will be submit the report at the earliest possible.

PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION/INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

The Capacity Building Assessment project will be coordinated by the National Biodiversity Focal Point and the National CHM Focal Point both whom are housed within the SEA. These two officers will utilise the National Biodiversity Programme Implementation Committee, which is a multi stakeholder group as a consensus building mechanism and agreeing on the Capacity Building priorities.

UNDP as the GEF implementing agency will provide financial management assistance and also assist in the procurement of regional and international experts/consultant in the various aspects of biodiversity.

Implementation shall follow the schedule outlined in table 2 below.

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(US \$ 000)

ACTIVITY	PRODUCT	PROCESS	TOTAL
APPROVED EARLIER			
Original EA, less costs of CHM Activities			169,560
CHM support (provided) through add-on module or project itself)			14,000
Total approved support			183,560
ADDITIONAL REQUEST			
1. Assessment of capacity Building needs <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Assessment of Capacity-building needs for implementation of measures for in-situ index-situ conservation and sustainable use• Initial assessment and monitoring programs, including taxonomy.• Assess capacity building needs for design and approaches relevant to the implementation of incentive measures.• Assess capacity building needs for conservation and sustainable use of biological diversity important to agriculture.	SWOT analysis Workshops RESEARCH Research Work & Workshops Research Work & Workshops Research work & workshops	Capacity assessment reports Institutional & HR dev. Reports & plans Capacity constraints & needs Report Capacity Assessment reports	35,000 35,000 30,000 30,000
2. Country-driven project for participation in the CHM	Networking, website	Functional CHM with website & local networking	60,000
3. Consultations for the second national	Workshops,	Locally owned	17,000

report	meetings and questionnaires.	and Approved document to COP	
Total Add-On Request			207,000
Grand TOTAL			390,560

SWAZILAND

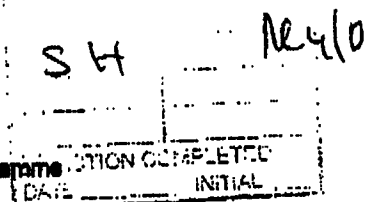
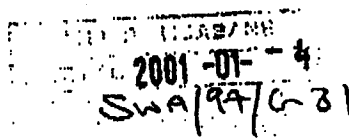


GOVERNMENT

SWAZILAND ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITY

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Ministry of Tourism, Environment &
 Communications
 P. O. Box 2652
 Mbabane
 Swaziland



Date: 01/01/03

The Resident Representative

United Nations Development Programme
 Mbabane

Re: ADDITIONAL REQUEST FOR COMPLETION OF THE CLEARING HOUSE MECHANISM

This serves to endorse the Swaziland's request for an additional funding in order to make the Clearing Mechanism Process complete and functional. The country requires an additional funding of US\$50,000 for a country driven CHM. The initial support of US\$14,000 has been used for the purchase of equipment, internet connection and website development for the Swaziland Environment Authority (SEA) which is the CHM focal point. However, the country has seen the need to link up the SEA with three other key centres, which are the information bank for the SEA. We have also seen the need to integrate GIS into our data management process. The additional funding will therefore cater for additional hardware and software, training in GIS, database and web page designs.

This additional request forms part of the overall proposal submitted by Swaziland on the CBD enabling activities.

Grateful for your usual cooperation in forwarding the GEF Secretariat

S.M. ZUKE

SENIOR ENVIRONMENT OFFICER AND SWAZILAND CLEARING HOUSE MECHANISM
 FOCAL POINT

File: MTEC/SEA/PR./13

SWAZILAND



GOVERNMENT

SWAZILAND ENVIRONMENT AUTHORITY

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Ministry of Tourism, Environment &
 Communications
 P. O. Box 2652
 Mbabane
 Swaziland

Date: 01/01/03

The Resident Representative
 United Nations Development Programme
 Mbabane

RE: ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR BIODIVERSITY ENABLING ACTIVITY.

On behalf of the Swaziland Government I hereby submit this additional request under the Biodiversity Enabling Activity. The additional funding being requested is for assessing capacity building needs, completing of the Clearing House Mechanism process, and undertaking consultations for the preparation of the second national report to the Conference of Parties.

The CBD operational Focal Point and the CHM Focal Point in consultation with the National Biodiversity Programme Implementation Committee have prepared the accompanying proposal, which also had the opportunity of being discussed with Mr Roy Hagen, a regional GEF advisor who was in the country to assist in improving our National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan (NBSAP). Our proposal has taken into account what has been recommended by various stakeholders in our NBSAP.

The Swaziland Environment Authority has placed Biodiversity issues high on its agenda, and is ready to implement the proposed activities as soon as this proposal is approved.

Thanking you in advance for your usual cooperation in forwarding our proposal to the appropriate authority.

[Signature]
J.D. VILAKATI

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR & GEF OPERATION FOCAL POINT

U.N.D.P. MBABANE	
REF NO.	2001-01-4
DATE	Swaziland 02/01/03
FILE NO.	10-31
INITIALS	SH
ACTION COMPLETED	
DATE	INITIAL