

Basic Project Data

Project GEF ID:

<u>Staff</u>		<u>Processing Status</u>	<u>Date</u>
Program Manager	Lusigi	Processing Stage	
Implementing Agency	World Bank	Concept Pipeline Discussion	
Regional Coordinator	Tina Kimes	PDF A - Agency Approval	
Executing Agency	National Government	PDF B - CEO Approval	
		Bilateral Project Review Meeting	
		Work Program Submission and Approv	1/24/00
		CEO Endorsement	
		Agency Approval	
		Project Completion	

Cost Summary

Cost Item	Years	Amount (USD'000)
<u>Preparation</u>		
- PDF A		
- PDF B		
- PDF C		
<u>Project Allocation</u>		
- Executing Agency Fees and Costs		\$0.00
- Project Management Costs		\$0.00
- Other Incremental Costs		\$0.00

Completeness of Documentation

Focal Point..... Budget..... Logical Framework.....
STAP Review..... Increment Cost..... Length.....
Disclosure of Administration Cost..... Complete Cover Sheet....

1. Country Ownership

Country Eligibility

Trinidad and Tobago ratified the CBD in August 1996.

Evidence of Country Ownership/Country-Drivenness

The team of consultants employed by MALMR to prepare management plans for the three proposed terrestrial national parks were supervised by an interagency task force and the project proposal was prepared with full participation from the relevant government departments, including THA and other stakeholders.

2. Program and Policy Conformity

Portfolio Balance

The project addresses a recognized gap and priority in the GEF portfolio for conservation in small island states.

Program Conformity

The proposed project design is fully consistent with the provisions of the Convention on Biodiversity, with the GEF Operational Strategy and specifically with objectives of the Operational Program # 2 on Coastal Marine and Fresh Water Ecosystems.

Replicability

The approaches adopted by the project of community based and decentralized natural resources management are pioneering approaches in resource management which can be replicated if successful.

Potential Global Environmental Benefits of Project

The project's global objective is to safeguard the globally significant biodiversity in Trinidad and Tobago's critical ecosystems through conservation and sustainable management. Trinidad and Tobago's biodiversity and ecosystems are unique because of the range of habitats supported, the rich endowment of species, and the regional and global significance of its wetlands.

Sustainability

The project would contribute importantly to ensuring environmental sustainability by preserving the country's biodiversity of national and global importance and improvement of the productivity of resource based activities, thereby enhancing the sustainable social and economic development of Trinidad and Tobago while protecting globally important resources.

Baseline Course of Action

Globally significant biodiversity in Trinidad and Tobago is concentrated in coastal and marine areas. In the absence of GEF assistance Government's main efforts would be concentrated over the next several years on terrestrial parks financed through IBRD. Government, through its national budget and with some assistance from international donors has been undertaking a number of activities toward conservation and management of Nariva and Speyside and is expected to continue to do so. However, these efforts would be insufficient in providing the level of protection required to safeguard globally significant biodiversity in these areas.

Alternative Action Supported by project

The GEF alternative would expand the baseline scenario (strengthening national capacity for protected areas management; establishment of three terrestrial national parks; and community development in the surrounding areas) by implementing an effective biodiversity conservation strategy for protection of key coastal and marine ecosystems as a complement to the baseline activities.

Conformity with GEF Public Involvement Policy

Community support for the protected areas will be a key factor in the ability to effectively and efficiently manage the proposed areas. The project will therefore pursue a collaborative and interactive approach which will include community concerns in management planning and strategies; will identify monitor and respond to impacts the protected areas may have on local resource users; and will respond through limited grant funding, to immediate community needs.

Private Sector Involvement

The private sector will be involved primarily in tourism.

3. Appropriateness of GEF Financing

Incremental Cost

The difference between the cost of the baseline scenario and the cost of the GEF alternative is estimated at US\$ 4.2 million. This represents the incremental costs of achieving global environmental benefits through management and establishment of two marine/coastal protected areas, that would lead to conservation of globally significant biodiversity.

Appropriateness of Financial Modality Proposed

Financial Sustainability of the GEF-Funded Activity

Financial sustainability is a critical concern and would depend upon a combination of 1) government subvention; 2) user fee revenues from visitors and concessionaires; 3) revenues gained from on-site sources -donations and sale of items; 4) mobilization private sector financing and 5) continued funding from environment trust fund financing which has already been established by government.

Absorptive Capability

The project is of a sufficient scale to be managed by the Trinidad and Tobago.

Cost Effectiveness

The cost of inaction in this regard which would result from biodiversity loss would far exceed the investment being sought by the project.

4. Coordination with Other Institutions

Collaboration

Close institutional coordination would be essential for the successful implementation of the project at several levels. The MALMR in carrying out its functions would require the cooperation of several agencies, in particular, EMA, TIDCO, and the Ministry of Tourism as well as the University of West Indies.

Complementarity with Ongoing Activities

The project is consistent with several activities being undertaken by the government through its collaboration with international institutions and the lessons learned from those activities are being incorporated in this project.

5. Responsiveness to Comments and Evaluations

Core Commitments

The GoRTT signaled its commitment to the project by preparing the legislation in advance for the establishment of the national Parks and Wildlife Authority whose function now are to be undertaken by a unit to be established in MALMR. MALMR has fully supported the preparation team, and moreover, allocated US\$ 0.31 mi in its 1999 budget to complete project preparation and begin start up activities.

Linkages

See interagency collaboration.

Consultation and Coordination

The project has been developed over a three year period and has enlisted the collaboration of major stakeholders.

Consistency w/previous upstream consultations, project preparation work, and processing conditions

The project is consistent with all the consultations held during its preparation

Monitoring & evaluation: Minimum GEF Standards, ME plan, proposed indicators, lessons from PIRs and Project Lessons Study

These are well developed in the project. The lessons from the PIR of the GEF evaluation and monitoring unit have been appropriately incorporated in the project pp 15.

Indicators

These are well developed in the matrix of annex 1.

Implementing Agencies' Comments

None received.

STAP Review

STAP review has been attached and raises issues which should be taken into account during appraisal especially with regard to stakeholder involvement.

Council members' Comments

Not yet.

Technical Assurances

Convention Secretariat

Not yet.

Other Technical Comments

Further Processing

The project is recommended for inclusion into the work program.